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DECEMBER 31, 2010

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ONLINE EXCLUSIVES @ thePhoenix.com

145 THINGS TO DO ON NYE! Our page 20 rundown of Boston's most festive First Night shenanigans lays out a wide array of options – from Bollywood movies to steamcrunk – but we're only scratching the surface here. Find more NYE listings than you can shake a huge novelty glowstick at, at thePhoenix.com/newyears.

POLITWEETS 2010! David S. Bernstein recaps the year in 140-character blasts on strip-search incidents, Tea Party protests, and creepy stumping. That's at thePhoenix.com/talkingpolitics.

GREATEST CONCERT IN BOSTON HISTORY! Can we get a witness for James Brown Death Week? Okay, so maybe that's come and gone – but it's never a bad time to relive the man's legacy with live footage from his legendary 1968 Boston Garden concert, at thePhoenix.com/onthedownload.

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Editorial

CAREFUL CARVING

KEEP POLITICS OUT OF REDISTRICTING. PLUS, SCOTT BROWN AND 'DADT.'

PEER PRESSURE Both Murray (left) and DeLeo have opposed a redistricting commission in the past. This time around, their fellow legislators should pressure them to change their tune.

The news last week from the US Census Bureau was as expected: Massachusetts is losing one of its 10 congressional districts. That loss of representation in Washington is unfortunate, but it is important that the state legislature not compound the problem with a politically controlled redistricting process. They should quickly, at the start of the 2011 session, create an independent commission to redraw the political map.

Governor Deval Patrick, Secretary of State Bill Galvin, and good-government groups like Common Cause and FairVote have called for a redistricting commission, which a dozen other states now use in some form, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

It is not just a way to prevent the partisan "gerrymandering" (a term that originated here in Massachusetts) that favors one party over another.

A more insidious problem of redistricting lies in the desire of incumbents, of any party, to maintain their familiar, safe boundaries. Their political lives lie in the hands of those drawing the districts — and that's a sure recipe for corruption, or the appearance of it.

That applies not only to congressmen, but also to state legislators, whose districts must also be redrawn to account for shifts in population within the state.

What state lawmaker would dare oppose Senate President Therese Murray, or Speaker Robert DeLeo, knowing that those two hold the power to redraw their district to ensure their defeat?

It doesn't take a raving cynic to suspect that this is precisely why Murray and DeLeo reject the use of an independent commission — and why, when Beacon Hill Republicans forced a vote on it in 2009, barely any Democrats bucked their leaders, and the measure went down to lopsided defeat in both houses.

Frankly, it is only the mind-boggling arrogance of power that allows DeLeo and Murray to continue blocking the creation of an independent redistricting commission, in the current atmosphere. Consider that the last Census, 10 years ago, led to the perjury indictment of Speaker Thomas Finneran — whose trouble stemmed from naming as House redistricting chair the consummate political horse-trader Thomas Petrolati. Petrolati is currently at the center of the latest Beacon Hill abuse-of-power scandal, involving patronage at the Probation Department.

DeLeo's tone-deaf dismissal of a redistricting commission — like his defense of patronage — rests essentially upon the argument that this is the way it's always been done.

That's not good enough, by a long shot. Nor is the claim that we are too late in the process to create a commission. Many states using such bodies have not yet appointed their members. The actual Census data for redistricting has not even been released.

DeLeo and Murray should change their tune, and agree to a commission, with members appointed by themselves, Patrick, and Galvin, whose recommendations would still require approval by the legislature and governor.

But it is unlikely, given their history, that any outside pressure will prompt that switch. That is why we urge individual legislators to speak out in favor of the plan — and in particular, for Brighton representative Michael Moran to do so.

Moran has been assigned the top redistricting role for the House by DeLeo. He, with his Senate counterpart Stan Rosenberg of Amherst, has taken the task seriously, attending conferences and familiarizing himself with the intricacies of Census data. He will not — as Petrolati did — approach the process with such naked political blinders that he couldn't even explain afterward the demographic basis behind the districts he created.

But Moran is also a savvy inside political player, with a reputation as a DeLeo (and former DiMasi) yes-man. Regardless of his best intentions, Moran must understand that by heading this process, in its current tainted form, he will be tainted along with it.

Moran has often touted himself as a progressive, with an independent streak. He needs to demonstrate that now, by publicly endorsing the creation of an independent redistricting commission — and the rest of the Boston caucus should stand behind him.

THE RIGHT CALL

While we are glad that Senator Scott Brown eventually chose to vote the right way — in favor of ending the US armed service's indefensible "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy of excluding admitted homosexuals from serving their country openly — we believe that he did so out of political calculation, rather than principle or conviction. Why should we think otherwise? He has never apologized for, or recanted, his long-standing and noxious anti-gay positions.

The same holds for Brown's last-minute support for ratification of New START — a decision he could have, and should have, made on the merits six months ago.

Brown, who must stand for re-election in 2012, has been carefully calculating when to cater to the national conservatives and Tea Party voters who funded his startling victory, and when to please the Massachusetts moderates and independents who will decide whether to send him back to Washington for a full six-year term. On these two important issues, we count ourselves lucky that his calculus favored the latter over the former.

Perhaps Brown took a close look at the Bay State's November election results, and realized his January win was an anomaly, and not a fundamental shift to the right in Massachusetts.

We are more enthusiastic in thanking Connecticut senator Joe Lieberman, who took a strong, unwavering stand on DADT, and Republicans Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins of Maine, who stuck with their beliefs despite the likelihood of a primary challenge from the right.

As for Brown — we'll take whatever good votes we can get from him. But we will not forget that he has cast plenty of bad votes as well. And we remind him that in 2012 he'll likely face a tougher opponent, and a more prepared Democratic Party, than he did last January. We hope that political reality will prompt him to cast more good votes, since we doubt his principles will. ⊙

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REALITY CHECK

_BY DAVID SIPRESS

I'm a locavore.

Freedom Watch

Terror and the MBTA: You don't look harmless

Racial profiling meets war on terror: the highest federal court in New England has said it's okay for government officials to single out dark-skinned people for searches, as long as they can concoct some cover rationale, ginned up with vague allusions to terrorism.

Leaping through one legal hoop after another, the First Circuit Court of Appeals found that an MBTA security officer had "probable cause" to search, and eventually arrest, occupants of a van parked near the Sullivan Square MBTA Station back in 2004. Officer Patricia Pitts was fresh from a one-day MBTA training seminar on "identifying potential terrorist threats," according to the court's decision, and her suspicion was piqued by the fact that the van's drivers and passengers "looked Middle Eastern."

Pitts, who is black, explained to the court: "Like myself, they [were] darker in the skin. Their skin was darker."

She called MBTA cops, who opened the van's doors, ordered the occupants out, and subsequently arrested them. But they were not Middle Eastern terrorists, or Middle Eastern anything. The driver was of Mexican descent, and the van was full of illegal Brazilian immigrants.

Federal courts have long held that racial and ethnic "profiling" are not adequate grounds, in and of themselves, on which to conduct a search. You can't blithely order someone out of a car just for looking Middle Eastern. But the First Circuit, while conceding racial profiling to be constitutionally "impermissible," ripped the heart out of that protection.

"This is not a case in which the only basis for suspicion was . . . appearance," the court wrote. Yet the list of rather ordinary things the court views as "corroborating grounds" for suspicion is so absurd as to add up to intellectual dishonesty:

❶ The van was large enough to "hold a significant amount of explosives."

BUDDY DUNCAN

❷ The van had "tinted rear and rear side windows" and a "temporary paper [license] plate."

❸ The van "was parked in the farthest corner of the parking lot."

❹ Occupants had "remained in the van for at least 20 minutes."

❺ One passenger got out and took notes, which signaled to the MBTA officer that he "could be planning where to plant explosives."

The collection of these details, said the three-judge panel in an opinion authored by the court's chief judge, Sandra Lynch, made the search reasonable. But this list of "suspicious" activity appears to describe quite normal occurrences that have been amplified to the level of probable cause, at least to the First Circuit's satisfaction.

In other words, race and ethnicity need not be just one factor among several in assessing reasonable suspicion, but it may be the sole factor if padded with quite ordinary activities.

The court also took pains to note the context of the incident: only a few months after the train bombings in Madrid. That recent attack, the court wrote, "meant it was material for the officers to consider, among other facts . . . that the persons they were investigating had a Middle Eastern appearance."

Through this tortured logic, racial profiling is essentially okay in the war against terrorism — even if the suspect is not doing anything a reasonable person would deem suspicious.

In the never-ending "war on terror," our government — taking a page from its ceaseless "war on drugs" and "war on organized crime" — is stripping privacy and dignity in the name of illusory safety. We'd do well to pay attention.

_Harvey Silverglate

FAILURE _BY KARL STEVENS KARLSTEVENSART@GMAIL.COM

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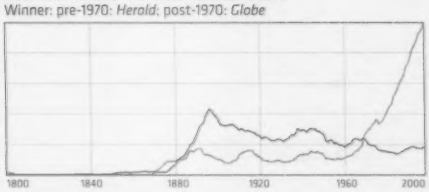
Two weeks ago, Google chucked a shiny new Web toy down the chimneys of Internet-research nerds everywhere: the Google Books Ngram Viewer, a search tool/treasure hunt that shows you the frequency of specific words in literature going back to the 1500s. (For example, it turns out the word "slavery" spikes during the Civil War and Civil Rights movement.) Thanks to data provided by Harvard-led "culturomics" researchers, Ngram supposedly trawls 5.2 million books — roughly "four percent of all books ever published," its creators say. While the Ngram itself has spurred plenty of its own controversy — chiefly concerning whether or not its potentially spotty results are actually worth a damn — we thought we'd put it to work settling a few hotly contested local debates. Because everything comes down to a popularity contest, right?

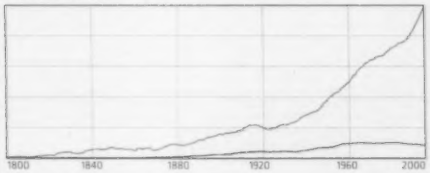
BOSTON GLOBE VS. *BOSTON HERALD*

Winner: pre-1970: *Herald*; post-1970: *Globe*



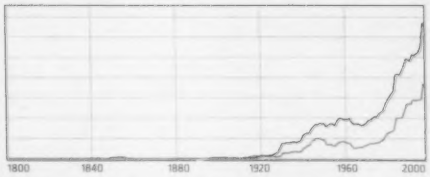
HARVARD UNIVERSITY VS. MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Winner: Harvard



BOSTON RED SOX VS. NEW YORK YANKEES

Winner: Yankees



BOSTON COLLEGE VS. BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Winner: BU

_Shaula Clark

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WINTER 2011

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Talking Politics

THE NEW NEW HAMPSHIRE

MITT ROMNEY AND THE REST OF THE GOP FIELD ARE ABOUT TO FIND A WHOLE NEW SET OF PLAYERS STANDING BETWEEN THEM AND FIRST-IN-THE-NATION PRIMARY VICTORY

_BY DAVID S. BERNSTEIN

For Mitt Romney and other likely presidential contenders, 2011 will be a busy year of campaigning and preparation for the first caucuses and primaries of the nominating process in early 2012. Among the most important of the rituals they face: sucking up to influential Republicans in New Hampshire, home of the first-in-the-nation primary.

That has suddenly become a much more complicated task. New Hampshire has just gone through one of the most remarkable political upheavals of its history, completely reshaping the landscape there.

The result, according to political observers in the state, is a power vacuum in the state's Republican circles, right on the eve of the presidential nomination battle. Or, from the perspective of a Republican presidential wannabe, a slew of total unknowns whose opinion could make or break you.

"There are a whole bunch of new leaders in the state who have never really talked to Romney — let alone [Tim] Pawlenty or the others," says Mike Dennehy, a veteran political consultant in Concord, and former John McCain adviser. "The opinion-leader crowd in New Hampshire is really a clean slate."

OUT WITH THE OLD

It's hard to overstate what happened in New Hampshire on election day this past November. If political analysts described the national election results as a Republican tsunami, what happened in the Granite State was of Noah-like proportions.

Both congressional seats flipped from blue to red. The State Senate turned from a 14-10 Democratic advantage to a stunning 19-5 GOP edge. And in the 400-member House of Representatives, Republicans gained a staggering 124 seats — going from a minority to the largest majority the party has ever held.

Perhaps even more crucially, US Senator Judd Gregg chose not to run for re-election this year, and former governor John H. Sununu announced this month that he will step down as state party chairman.

"New Hampshire politics, for most people's memory, has been two dominant political parties," says James Pindell, WMUR-TV political director. "Not Democrat and Republican, but Sununu and Gregg."

To be sure, nobody expects those two to fade entirely into the background after three decades each as Granite State kingpins. But neither has the power of office behind their persuasion any more.

BATTLES ROYALE

This convergence of the New Hampshire GOP's sudden surge in power and absence of leadership has set the stage for two epic battles so far, and a third unfolding, between the party establishment and the Tea Party–based conservative outsiders.

The first came in the September US Senate primary, when Gregg's hand-picked successor, Kelly Ayotte, barely squeaked out victory, by fewer than 2000 votes, over outsider choice Ovide LaMontagne.

The conservative outsiders prevailed in round two, however: the choice of new Speaker of the House of Representatives. The huge influx of new, primarily conservative members lifted third-term backbencher Bill O'Brien — formerly of Massachusetts, where in the early 1990s he was law partners with Tom Finneran — to a narrow win over long-time leadership member Gene Chandler for the position.

Now, the third battle is shaping up in the race to succeed Sununu as state party chairman. The establishment, including Sununu himself, is backing Cheshire County Republican Chair Juliana Bergeron. The insurgents, including O'Brien, are behind former gubernatorial candidate and Tea Party organizer Jack Kimball.

You can be sure the presidential contenders have a close eye on the outcome. But so far, they've been shy about taking sides.

It's easy to see why. Which do you want to offend, the Sununu machine, or the Tea Party voters?

TWO PATHS

A lot of people now expect the 2012 primary field to split into two early races.

New Hampshire Tea Partiers, in the afterglow of their 2010 success, are already looking for a conservative, populist candidate, says Andrew Hemingway, chair of the Republican Liberty Caucus, which endorsed more than 100 of the new Republican House members. "There's already been a shift in attention toward the presidential contest" among those activists, Hemingway says.

The state's establishment Republicans, on the other hand, will be looking for a more mainstream, electable candidate — one they hope will benefit from the large number of independents expected to vote in the Republican primary, with Obama's renomination a foregone conclusion.

It's not at all clear, however, which "influencers," if any, hold the key to those two paths. The state party didn't even organize the traditional dinner, usually held a year before the primary, that has served in the past as a showcase for speeches from presidential candidates.

Which means that, for the time being, it looks like an open market, with little centralized control over the endorsements and assistance from several hundred elected Republican lawmakers, organizers, and volunteers.

"Ten or 20 years ago, you would have said go after the institutional people," says Charles Arlinghaus, Republican insider and president of the Josiah Bartlett Center for Public Policy. "Now there's a growing realization that there aren't power brokers *per se*. Nobody delivers a group, you have to go get the group."

NEW BALLGAME

Candidates will also likely find themselves seeking to curry favor with any number of newly emerging conservative voices whose influence has yet to be tested — associations like Republican Liberty Caucus; advocacy groups like Cornerstone Policy Research, led by Kevin Smith; and Web sites like RedHampshire or GraniteGrok.

Of course, Pindell, Arlinghaus, and others acknowledge another possibility: that this cycle will reveal that *none* of New Hampshire's Republican influencers matter at all. The truth, they say, could be that New Hampshire's Republicans get their news and opinions from distant sources — primarily Fox News, talk radio, and national Web sites like NewsMax and RedState.

It might not be necessary, this time around, for candidates to bother sucking up to local pols, or traipsing through house parties and farmers' markets in Coos County — as long as you get favorable treatment from Sean Hannity, Rush Limbaugh, and Erick Erickson.

That new reality might be why, other than Romney and to some extent Pawlenty, none of the 2012 wannabes made any serious effort to help Granite State Republicans in the 2010 midterms — and why a lot of insiders don't think it did Romney and Pawlenty much good. It might in fact be a whole new ballgame in New Hampshire — one in which the new players aren't even part of the game. ◉

To read the "Talking Politics" blog, go to thePhoenix.com/talkingpolitics. David S. Bernstein can be reached at dbernstein@phx.com.

FIVE FOR 2011

MAPPING OUT THE NEW YEAR'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

_BY STEVEN STARK

As Casey Stengel said, "Never make predictions, especially about the future." But with no key electoral contests on tap for 2011 and the most conservative and Republican House of Representatives in decades facing off against a liberal Democratic president in the midst of the nation's worst economic crisis in three generations, the contours of the major political landscape in 2011 are already etched in the sand.

So, mindful of Stengel's advice, here are five big issues to keep an eye on in the coming year, in reverse order of importance.

In the coming year, hundreds of cities and maybe even some states are likely to face what amounts to bankruptcy. If they're not bailed out, the effects on the economy could be profound.

5_ WHAT HAPPENS TO OBAMACARE? Outside of the financial/budgetary crisis, this will be the major domestic issue over the next year, as the House Republicans pass bill after bill to eviscerate the Obama health-care plan — both through outright repeal or by denying funding for key provisions. It's all for show, of course, since the Senate won't pass them. This will all be played out against the backdrop of a certain appeal of the law's constitutionality to the Supreme Court, where Justice Anthony Kennedy — the swing vote — will essentially decide which way the 5-4 decision will go.

Yes, Obamacare has some major individual provisions that almost all voters like. And yes, the overall law is still unpopular. But what hurt President Obama the most politically with the health-care plan is that he pursued it seemingly to the exclusion of focusing on anything else, especially the economy. Could the same thing happen to the House Republicans? With many of the law's provisions not taking effect for several years, the debate over health care will continue unresolved until either the Supreme Court looks at it, or the 2012 election is held. If Obama is re-elected, it survives. If not, most of it will be repealed — if the Supreme Court hasn't struck it down first.

BUDDY DUNCAN

4_ WHAT DOES SARAH DO? Whether Sarah Palin runs for president in 2012 will be the major electoral story of 2011, if only because recent rule changes pushing the primary calendar back will allow her (and others) to wait until the end of the year before making a decision.

This will have the effect of draining oxygen from all the other challengers, essentially freezing the GOP nomination race in place and making it difficult for any relatively unknown candidate to gain traction. (Goodbye, Tim Pawlenty.) Her position as the titular GOP spokesman will also benefit Obama in the short run since, as unpopular as he may become, she's far more so.

But the truth is that the Republicans would be well served by an eventual Palin candidacy. Yes, she's unelectable in a general contest. But to paraphrase LBJ, better to have her "doing her thing" inside the tent than outside. A GOP run by her likely forecloses an independent candidacy that could wreck the party's chances in the general. And, if one of the other contenders can defeat her in the primaries, he or she emerges as a far stronger candidate for having tamed the threat from within.

3_ WHAT DO HUCKABEE AND CHRISTIE DO? Bloomberg News is one of the only journalistic outfits still hiring, so expect a continuous stream of news stories about how Michael Bloomberg may run as an independent for president in 2012. But even if he does, a rich New York mayor isn't what the country is seeking, and thus he would fall flat. For other reasons, ditto for potential candidates Mitch Daniels or Jeb Bush. In a Palin-saturated media environment, it's going to be hard for any unknown (Daniels, Barbour, *et al.*) to emerge, and it's still too soon for another Bush.

Instead, the potential candidates to watch are Republicans Mike Huckabee — who will continue to fly under the radar — and New Jersey Governor Chris Christie — who, next to Palin, is the name on everyone's lips. For some reason, Huckabee continues to be underestimated, but if history holds, a former governor and fairly successful candidate who knows how to use television has a leg up on all other challengers. To the extent there is a GOP front-runner, he's it — should he choose to run.

On the other hand, everyman Christie has become a folk hero via YouTube in only a year, as he has embodied better than anyone the national zeitgeist with a commonsense, call-'em-as-you-see-'em approach to budget cutting. He's on record as not planning to be a presidential candidate in 2012, so he'd need a change of mind (which could quickly undo his image) or a draft to be viable. But these are strange times, and if there's ever going to be a Wendell Willkie for the primary era, Christie could be the man.

2_ DOES THE DEBT CEILING GET RAISED? In the first half of the year, the debt ceiling must be raised or else the government will shut down, in an echo of what happened in 1995. Already, some GOP leaders — buoyed by the new members in their midst — have vowed not to approve an increase without sharp cuts in federal spending that President Obama and Democrats will likely oppose.

Sure, the Obama administration could resort to temporary budget gimmicks to compensate, and the government could even close up shop for awhile. The real problem is that the crisis could spark a meltdown in bond and stock markets, triggering Phase 2 of the financial crisis that began in the fall of 2008. In the last such stand-off in 1995, the stakes were much smaller: will either side blink this time? Our guess here is that Speaker of the House John Boehner will convince enough Republicans to join the Democrats and narrowly get the ceiling raised at the last minute. But it's going to be a close call.

1_ HOW DO OBAMA AND CONGRESS DEAL WITH THE STATE AND MUNICIPAL DEFAULT CRISIS? Another cliché: this is the ticking time bomb of our politics and economy. In the coming year, hundreds of cities and maybe even some states are likely to face what amounts to bankruptcy — an American version of what is currently happening in Europe. If they're not bailed out, as many essentially were with the 2009 stimulus, the effects on the economy could be profound, as bond markets tank and thousands on public payrolls are thrown out of work. The GOP Congress is going to be ill-inclined to bail out anyone on a public payroll and states aren't allowed to officially declare bankruptcy, nor are cities in half of those states.

Congress could pass a statute allowing states to declare bankruptcy, but a new enactment won't be forthcoming without a provision that allows them to vitiate their pension agreements with public-employee unions — unions that just happen to be one of the key building blocks of the Obama coalition. This is a recipe for deadlock.

It's also a recipe for disaster. The Great Depression went through waves as gains were periodically made, then wiped out as new stages of the crisis took hold. This will be our next wave and it could well crest next year. If our current leaders can't navigate their way through it, all bets are off. Keep your fingers crossed: we'll need to hang 10, as the poet once said.

Steven Stark can be reached at sds@stark-writing.com.

TOO MUCH INFORMATION

IT'S COSTLY, INEFFICIENT, AND GETTING WORSE. MEET BIG GOVERNMENT'S NEXT BIG PROBLEM: DIGITAL OVERLOAD

_BY CHRIS FARAONE

K. BUNAN

Our nation is drowning in data. At any given time, federal agencies use more electronic storage units than could fill every NFL stadium from Oakland to Foxboro. At last count, the US government owns or leases at least 2100 data centers, and spends about half of its multibillion dollar IT budget on digital storage. The United States Census Bureau alone maintains about 2560 terabytes of information — more data than is contained in all the academic libraries in America, and the equivalent of about 50 million four-door filing cabinets of text documents. In addition to the federal deluge, tens of thousands of municipal and state facilities maintain data ranging from driver's-license pics to administrative e-mails — or at least they're required to.

"Going digital" was supposed to be an environmentally conscious way for governments to cut costs while improving efficiency. But it hasn't quite worked out that way yet. Storage capacity is increasing, but the volume of data is also increasing, perhaps just as quickly. Over the next decade, the world will produce the informational equivalent of nearly 100 million Libraries of Congress per year, according to Cisco's Internet Business Solutions Group.

Most of what the government stores are public records, which means that by law they must be made available to anyone who requests them. But while there are ambitious efforts underway to improve storage methods, the sheer bulk of information is alarming.

These quandaries are turning into an increasingly expensive problem, and one that now has its own advisory bureau; the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was opened in 2009, solely to serve as an intermediary service between requesters of information and agency gatekeepers. Furthermore, Barack Obama was the first president to appoint a chief information officer, the operational-IT wunderkind Vivek Kundra, who has made it a priority to streamline the government's inefficient, energy-wasteful information infrastructure under a newly enacted Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative. Kundra claims the US has already reduced its overall IT budget by $3 billion, while increasing functionality in some agencies by more than four times. Still, dire problems persist.

BOGGED DOWN

Public data remains, by and large, a disorganized mess. A recent report by the Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) found that despite the administration's policy adjustments, Freedom of Information Act requests are still not being processed much differently than they used to be.

Indeed, from Washington DC to small-town America, governments have quietly begun to acknowledge that the information age has gotten them in way over their heads. Why?

There is too much data. Digital storage is not a natural resource. The amount of information that government agencies may be required to keep — from tweets and e-mails to tax histories — is growing faster than the capacity for storage.

There's not enough manpower to manage all this data. The Obama administration hopes to make more information freely available online. But in the meantime, the old method of requesting data from the government — filing a FOIA request — is bogged down due to an insufficient workforce and long request backlogs.

Private companies are storing public data. This trend in outsourcing, largely the result of too much data and too little manpower, is a potential threat to both access and security, as resources that belong to the people are entrusted to outside vendors, raising new privacy concerns.

These may seem like new-fangled problems spurred on by the Internet. But they're not. These are dilemmas faced by society at the advent of every new way of proliferating data — from the printing press to the Xerox machine.

"If you look at the early 20th century, the number of paper documents was growing exponentially as all of these huge government agencies were popping up," says John Wonderlich, policy director at the Sunlight Foundation in Washington. Advocates for institutional transparency, the Sunlight Foundation, among other functions, leans on government to make public records available. "Back then they didn't know what to throw out, what to standardize, or how to organize. The challenges we face with data are in similar scope — that's why it's so important that these issues are addressed head-on before it's too late."

DAUNTING DISARRAY

Since before the modern Internet existed, the Departments of Defense and State have been heading for an information crisis. Data from the two agencies now consume about half of the US government's 2100 digital storage facilities, and twice as much memory as all federal departments used 10 years ago, on account of the raging war machine and new-age digital diplomacy. Even with those resources, the State Department only has enough capacity to keep six months' worth of e-mail backups, and, as evidenced by highly publicized disorganization in the VA health-care system, the Department of Defense is hardly a model bureaucracy itself. The disarray is daunting — especially to those responsible for organizing all the mess.

"[The] growth in redundant infrastructure investments is costly, inefficient, unsustainable, and has a significant impact on energy consumption," Chief Information Officer Kundra wrote in a March 2010 memo. "In addition to the energy impact, information collected from agencies in 2009 shows relatively low utilization rates of current infrastructure and limited reuse of data centers within or across agencies. The cost of operating a single data center is significant, from hardware and software costs to real-estate and cooling costs."

The 36-year-old Kundra cut his teeth as chief technology officer for former District of Columbia Mayor Adrian Fenty. Kundra has been criticized by some for the breadth of his plans, and in other cases for not doing enough, but his early efforts are already netting results. Next year, the

Continued on p 12

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Continued from p 10

Department of Defense will move most of its data storage into a new state-of-the-art 5000-square-foot facility, while the Department of Homeland Security is on track to consolidate 24 data centers into two over the next five years.

The model agencies are using to streamline data is called virtualization. A policy-speak term-du-jour, virtualization in this case means connecting vast resources and discarding overlapping information. Under the Federal Data Center Consolidation Initiative, all government agencies are being forced to clean out their server closets, starting with major users like the Department of the Treasury, which is scheduled to close 13 data centers in the near future. It's a slow start — only an estimated 20 percent of federal databases have been virtualized so far. But it's a start.

NOT ENOUGH PEOPLE

As a society, we've decided we want government to be more transparent and more accountable. The government has responded, but the more information we keep, the harder it becomes to search for what we want. Data, in and of itself, isn't the answer — unless you've got people to make sense of it. Even with millions being spent on storage solutions, public workers warn that at the bottleneck of information flow sits a shortage of good old-fashioned manpower.

One of the best ways of measuring this is to examine Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests — the standard way that citizens and news organizations obtain access to government data. Recently, CREW, in its aforementioned survey, questioned federal workers who process FOIA inquiries, asking how much of an impediment such plagues as inadequate staffing and poor records management are to good FOIA policy.

By law, FOIA requests are supposed to be filled within 20 days, but many agencies face significant backlogs. According to CREW, the culprit isn't technology: it's scarce resources and understaffing. "Despite the Obama administration's emphasis on transparency and accountability," the report notes, "[there have] not been the changes to the government infrastructure to accomplish this. The harsh reality is that without more money for staffing and other resources, the processing of FOIA requests will not improve significantly."

Some watchdogs point out that these are precisely the types of problems that could be solved through transparency: making government information more publicly accessible by default, instead of forcing citizens, agencies, interest groups, and journalists to go through a series of time-consuming and sometimes expensive bureaucratic processes.

"One way to combat [backlogs] is to post more records online," says Mark Caramanica, FOI director for the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. "The more transparent you are online, the less you have to react to requests. Furthermore, it's important for people to put things up online in a user-friendly format in a way that it can be digested. Scanning PDF files in a way that they are not searchable doesn't serve open government in the electronic age, and that's something that government needs to consider in looking toward the future."

The administration says it has already started down that path. Since 2009, federal agencies have placed in excess of 270,000 data sets on data.gov, with Kundra tapping a team of "data curators" from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to whittle user-friendly presentations out of several millions of random documents. At a US government-sponsored International Open Government Data Conference in November, curators demonstrated eye-popping info-graphics reflecting the number of library books per capita, clean-air trends, campaign funding, and other data sets that would take months to analyze by hand.

HAIL TO THE GEEK Vivek Kundra, the first-ever US chief information officer, has made streamlining the government's information infrastructure a top priority.

But not many local governments have world-class programmers assisting them. While billions in federal funds are designated to address info-tech issues, towns and cities are finding themselves caught between technological needs and budget constraints. As reported in a bombshell *60 Minutes* segment in December, since 2008, the states have together collected about half a trillion dollars less revenue than they've spent. Needless to say, IT budgets come after the likes of payroll, snow removal, and education.

Even basic storage functions like e-mail retention can be paralyzing for small towns, says James Lampke, a Hingham municipal-law attorney who serves as executive director for the City Solicitors and Town Counsel Association: "Communities want to comply, but these things take up a tremendous amount of staff time to deal with. The whole issue reflects a butting of heads of making the best use of modern technology with the practical realities of local government. Some of these things are just not feasible."

Adds Wonderlich of the Sunlight Foundation: "It's really unfortunate because when you have an IT staff of one or two, sometimes there's no winning. You can either try to do everything on your own, which is becoming more and more impossible, or you can hire an outside company, in which case there's a big risk that you'll get fleeced."

OUTSOURCED

As local and federal agencies struggle with the problem of how to store massive amounts of information on shrinking budgets, they're encountering yet another challenge: how to keep your data secure. And that's driving many agencies towards privatization — a trend that's been great for industry but may not be so great for privacy.

> *'These things take up a tremendous amount of staff time to deal with. Some of these things are just not feasible.'*

Last month, Microsoft inked a government contract to provide calendar, messaging, document-collaboration, and Web-conferencing services for the USDA. *Fast Company* magazine called the deal a "coup" for Microsoft, which is running neck-and-neck with Google to win federal contracts for cloud computing — Internet-based operations that are replacing old brick-and-mortar data storage methods. The USDA deal will affect 5000 US offices worldwide, with more reportedly coming online soon as other agencies employ high-tech solutions. Already more than 500 municipal governments nationwide use outside vendors for cloud computing.

Though cloud storage is a relatively new phenomenon, the outsourcing of public-document storage to private companies is not. One of the Department of State's three main data centers is managed by a commercial vendor, while the Census Bureau relies on multiple third-party providers. And that's the federal government, which has infinitely more resources than cities, towns, and states. In many cases, in order to comply with disclosure laws, municipalities have no choice but to seek help outside of their in-house IT departments, if they have one in the first place.

"There are pros and cons to third-party storage," says Sean Moulton, Federal Information Policy director for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Watch. Based in Washington, OMB Watch aims "to protect and promote active citizen participation in our democracy." He adds, "If you've lost the capacity to run and manage a system, and the third party knows how to do it, then there can be a real benefit. It might even be more efficient. The downside is when you disconnect the management of the info and the ability to retrieve it, sometimes agencies don't even know what they have under their purview."

Despite prevalent security and FOIA-related concerns about private companies managing public information, data storage is a major boom industry in Washington. Tech leaders like Unisys and Agilex Technologies conduct business with the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, Health & Human Services, Justice, and Veterans Affairs, just to name a few. Agilex was recently named the "Fastest Growing Company in the Washington DC Region" by *Washington Business Journal*, and the "Hottest Emerging Government Contractor" by the Northern Virginia Technology Council. In a climate marked by uncertainty and disorganization, one thing is for sure: as federal agencies seek to streamline data storage on tight budgets, these companies will play increasingly bigger roles.

"There are a lot of ways that electronic dissemination can save time and money, but outsourcing can be a major problem," says Caramanica of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press. "You can't be privatizing government functions in the private sector and then telling citizens that they no longer have a right to these records. This is an important part of an important conversation that is now trying to take shape — especially at the federal level, but also at the state and municipal levels. Everyone is starting to understand that this thing of the Internet and electronic dissemination and proactive disclosure can really be a useful tool to enhance transparency. Now we have to figure out how this is all going to work." ®

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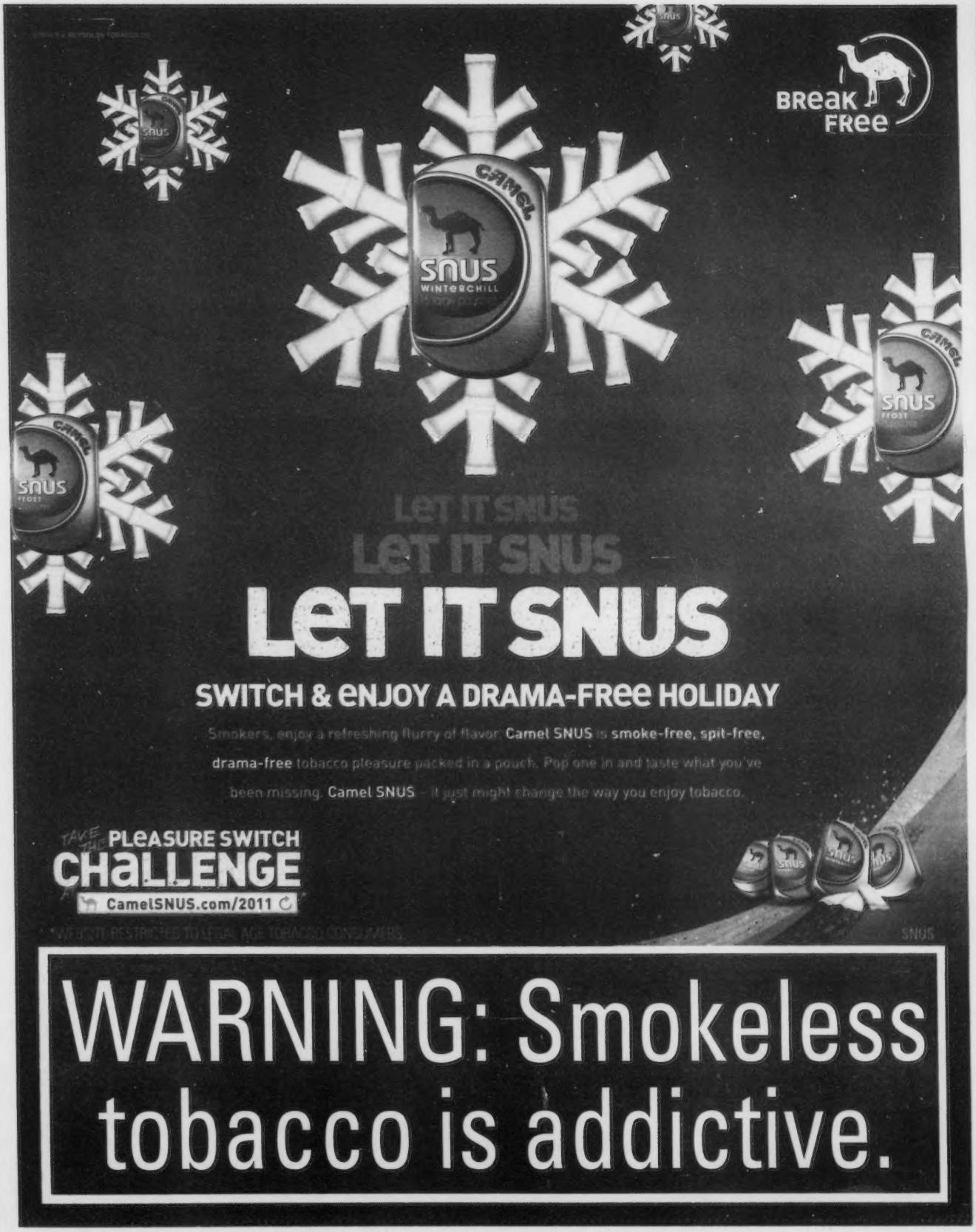
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BREAKOUT START-UPS

TEN BOSTON TECH COMPANIES TO WATCH IN 2011

_BY BOSTINNOVATION.COM STAFF

In 2010, the must-read tech/business blog bostinnovation.com became our go-to link for keeping up with Boston's Interweb, e-commerce, social-media, and start-up players in 2010. We asked the minds behind Streetwise Media — home to both BostInnovation and the Pinyadda news platform — to look into their crystal ball and tell us who they'll be keeping an eye on in the coming year.

It's been a big year for start-ups in Boston. Marked by a resurgence of youthful enthusiasm and dotted with a few big exits for companies started in the city, 2010 has laid the groundwork for what should be an even more successful year for local ventures. With multiple new co-working spaces hitting their stride, the opening of several new seed-stage funding groups, and initiatives like MassChallenge fueling a new generation of young entrepreneurs, Boston is poised to have a breakout year in 2011.

SVPPLY | SVPPLY.COM | This social-shopping up-tart lets you share products and follow boutiques in a stream-like interface that feels like the world's trendiest Tumblr blog. The company recently relocated here from New York and acquired backing from folks including a co-founder of Foursquare, the former president of MySpace, and Cambridge-based Spark Capital. Svpply's designer is a 28-year-old MassArt grad, Ben Pierratt; his business partner, Zach Klein, co-founded Vimeo. Who'd want to bet against them?

HUBSPOT | HUBSPOT.COM | These inbound marketing experts, who've developed a sick suite of tools for analyzing the efficiency of your Web-and-social-media presence, are coming off of a huge 2010. They're already famous around town for an intra-office culture that includes a well-stocked beer fridge, zero office doors, and a really, really liberal vacation policy. Rumors of highly impressive revenue numbers are floating around — as are whispers that a hefty round of additional financing early this year could propel HubSpot to new heights (and even an IPO?) in the coming year.

SCVNGR | SCVNGR.COM | Location-based mobile application stars SCVNGR are trying "to build a game layer on top of the world." They made a big splash in 2010 — thanks to their venue-rewards program, in which your check-ins at places like the Middle East can get you actual stuff, not just virtual badges. In 2011, SCVNGR will go head-to-head with Foursquare, the Goliath of the location space. But SCVNGR have two huge partnership advantages: access to Google Places, and integration of Facebook's check-in system. The competition is severe, but the company is adding new features and improving compatibility as it strives to expand its user base.

3PLAYMEDIA | 3PLAYMEDIA.COM | They were one of the 16 companies chosen for funding though MassChallenge — the $1.5 million start-up competition launched earlier this year in Boston's Innovation District — thanks to their fresh approach to interactive video transcription and translation services. The amount of video on the Web is expected to explode in the coming year, and finding ways to translate video into text that can be read and understood by search engines and screen readers is likely to be incredibly valuable.

BRIGHTCOVE | BRIGHTCOVE.COM | This Cambridge-based company provides video-delivery services to some of the biggest names in online media, from the *New York Times* to General Motors. (Full disclosure: the *Phoenix* is a former Brightcove client.) From embeddable players to live streaming, the company handles all kinds of video-delivery challenges and platforms, including iPhone and iPad, for customers both large and small. They recently hired a new CFO, leading Techcrunch to speculate that they're headed for a merger or an IPO in early 2011.

DATAXU | DATAXU.COM | Coming off a productive 2010 that saw the company increase the size of its team considerably, this Summer Street company is part of an advertising-tech cluster that's quickly emerging as a key sector in Boston's start-up ecosystem, DataXu uses mad science to help companies make really quick, and really smart, online-marketing decisions. Their set of tools helps advertising agencies — or even individual brands — target, purchase, and optimize their online, video, and mobile-media ads in nearly real-time.

NANIGANS | NANIGANS.COM | You've probably never heard of them, but Nanigans is changing the game in social advertising by providing intelligent optimization of Facebook ads. As Facebook ads continue to explode in popularity, look for big things from these guys in 2011.

FIGCARD | FIGCARD.COM | PAYDIANT | PAYDIANT.COM | The US has lagged behind the rest of the world in getting people to pay for stuff with their cell phones, but that's going to change this year. A wealth of financial-services companies call Boston home, so it's only fitting to include these two mobile-payment services as ones to watch in 2011. Moving quickly into the space: Fig Card, which aims to turn your iPhone into a credit/debut card, perhaps with Foursquare-like rewards built right in. Also keep an eye out for Paydiant, a newly formed mobile-payment company from some of Boston's mobile-tech all-stars — so new that they haven't even launched a proper Web site yet.

> *Harmonix's game-design chops and track record of success make it one to watch closely in 2011.*

HARMONIX | HARMONIX-MUSIC.COM | It's no secret that Central Square's Harmonix had a rough 2010, financially speaking. (As for the games? *Dance Central* is pretty much the only reason kids wanted a Kinect for Christmas.) The inventors of the massively popular *Guitar Hero* and *Rock Band* franchises fell out with corporate parent Viacom after the company failed to sell a zillion copies of *Rock Band 3*. Late last week, reports surfaced that Harmonix was filing suit against Viacom and returning to its roots as an independent studio. Which is, in a word, awesome: the company's game-design chops and track record of success make it one to watch closely in 2011.

HEARTLAND ROBOTICS | HEARTLANDROBOTICS.COM | Heartland Robotics has been hush-hush on what they're building, but just raised another $20 million in a Series B funding round in November. The company was founded by former MIT prof Rodney Brooks, who was co-founder/CTO of iRobot — and his new venture appears to be a kind of Roomba for light industry. Reports are that they're developing a cheap ($5000) robot that can perform repetitive manufacturing tasks. People who've seen Heartland's 'bot described it to the *Boston Globe* as "a lightweight robot that looks like a human from the waist up, with a torso; either one or two arms with grippers, and a camera where you might expect the head to be." Can it blog? We'll take five, please.

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Outstanding	⊕⊕⊕⊕	$ = $15 or less
Excellent	⊕⊕⊕	$$ = $16-$22
Good	⊕⊕	$$$ = $23-$30
Average	⊕	$$$$ = $31 and up
Poor	⊖	Based on average entrée price

LOOKING FORWARD FOR 2011

NADEAU'S RESOLUTIONS FOR RESTAURATEURS

_BY ROBERT NADEAU

Many *Phoenix* writers are using this issue to forecast coming attractions for the new year. I refuse to predict what restaurants will actually open in 2011. A lot of plans come to nothing. I cannot even predict what *kinds* of restaurants will open in the next 12 months, although gastropubs with ceilings painted black would be a reasonable guess, based on recent performance. Loud is a pretty good guess, too. I checked this a few time with a decibel meter, and some Boston restaurants are noisier than subway stations when the train is coming in. (And in a restaurant, there is no gap between trains.) Hey mayors, town budgets have been hit hard. How about a decibel tax and a surcharge on "too dark to read the menu"?

The good news for restaurateurs is that my own resolution is to eat less and exercise more between restaurant visits. So I will be walking in hungry. Follow some of my 20 resolutions for restaurateurs below, and I may walk out happy and carry that mood all the way home to the keyboard.

1_ RESOLVE TO USE THE "WHOLE FISH" You've been doing the "whole pig" thing and the "whole animal" thing. This year, join a Community Supported Fishery and deal with some whole fish. Think of the possibilities: real fish chowder, based on fish stock, one of the glories of old Yankee cuisine. Monkfish medallions, plus the rich livers. Roe scallops. Codfish fillets, plus soup, plus scalloped cheeks and tongues. Real crab bisque. Pollack in that fancy French form of gefilte fish called quenelles. Fish balls instead of meatballs. That amazing cazuela of squid and skate wings I had in Portugal? You can do it, chefs!

2_ TEA I know it got a little political there, but there is no reason not to serve a decent cuppa. Many restaurants delegate tea and coffee service to waitrons. That's okay, just send those waitrons out with some kind of hot water that will stay hot and already has some kind of tea in it. Think about how dumb it looks to have customers ripping tea bags open with their teeth, sticking them in a cup and putting the saucer on top in the vain hope that the water will stay hot enough to brew the tea. (And if you serve iced tea from a mix, and I catch you, there will be no mercy. None.)

3_ DECAF It's harder to make than coffee. Caffeine is bitter. (Skip the cocaine for an hour and grind up a no-doz, taste, and you'll see what I mean.) So you have to make decaf fresher and stronger than real coffee or it will taste like dishwater. It burns faster than coffee. Lorder it a lot. You've been warned.

4_ TRIOS It took me several columns to work this one out. You serve a trio of somethings, you imagine you have provided the variety of a buffet. Not me. I imagine you actually tasted all three, and decided to serve the two that weren't as good along with your favorite. Let's see some confidence in your own palate, chef!

5_ TELEVISION Stay off it. Your job is to be in the kitchen making or supervising meals for the paying customers. I see a chef on TV, it's like you painted a big target on your restaurant — I know you are not minding the store, and the cab company is on speed dial.

DINING OUT

6_ CRÈME BRÛLÉE I've got a new argument against this cliché: global warming. Donate your butane torches to Haiti and serve me a nice a custard dessert. How about butterscotch pudding?

7_ ONION SOUP A few tips: when you do the whole steer, make beef stock out of the shins and feet. Don't add too much salt. And how about a crouton with some crunch?

8_ TAGLIATELLE BOLOGNESE Sure it's good. But do you really think you can make it better than Dante de Magistris or Barbara Lynch? If so, go for it.

9_ MEMO TO SERVERS "Are you still working on that?" is a tip-killer. People are dining out. If you make them think of working, they will think of paychecks and layoffs.

10_ SWEET-POTATO FRIES They don't get crisp. Not until after they burn a lot.

11_ CONFIT DUCK Try a little spice. Madeleine Kamman was right; Paula Wolfert was wrong.

12_ THE WAR IN IRAQ IS OVER Where are my refugee restaurants? If I don't see any results in 2010, we're going to have to end some more wars. I would hate to see us lining up for North Korean or Libyan food, so let's get those Iraqi restaurants going, okay?

13_ THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR HAS BEEN OVER FOR MORE THAN 110 YEARS Where are my Filipino restaurants?

14_ THE PLASMA TVS I'm not asking you to donate them to Goodwill. How about some less annoying content than sound-free talking heads on CNN?

15_ ROASTED BEET SALAD Slower, longer roasting to get some concentrated sweetness in the beets. Red, good. Golden, good. Chioggia beets, pretty but tasteless. Got it?

16_ THE FAKE FIREPLACE THING If natural gas is cheaper and less polluting than wood, invent an attractive natural-gas space heater that doesn't look like a fake wood fire.

17_ CARROT CAKE A last refuge of spicy pudding flavors. How about half the size, and lighter frosting?

18_ VEGAN RESTAURANTS WITHOUT VEGETABLES This goes for kosher Chinese and Asian-vegan, too. One a year is funny. Any more than that is war.

19_ GRINDING STEAKS INTO $20 HAMBURGERS This is not a form of molecular gastronomy. It's nuts.

20_ SOFTER RISOTTI, HARDER DRIED PASTA I regret to inform you that if I can buy high-protein imported pasta on what the *Phoenix* pays, you can afford to sell it for $16 a plate with clam sauce. ⊕

Robert Nadeau can be reached at robtnadeau@aol.com.

On the cheap

A LOOK AHEAD ON THE CHEAP

HOTLY ANTICIPATED BUDGET-DINING OPENINGS FOR 2011 _BY MC SLIM JB

Critics often struggle to keep up with new restaurants, let alone worthy, unreviewed ones that have been around a while. Yet as we approach another new year, it's hard not to get excited about certain pending cheap-eats openings. Here's a small sample:

THE WHOLY GRAIN | 275 Shawmut Ave, Boston | Opening in a former mobster's social club, this South End bakery/cafe will focus on takeout of made-to-order and prepared healthy meals, including sandwiches of artisan breads and house-roasted meats. A small outdoor patio will offer seating in nicer weather.

FLOATING ROCK | 485 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Now that the original in Revere has closed, lovers of traditional Khmer cuisine are understandably anxious to have a place in town to get their fix of tiger's tears, squid salad, fried quail, spicy chili pork, and the occasional hit of prahok.

DELUXE STATION DINER | 70 Union St, Newton Centre | The second outlet from the folks behind Watertown's beloved Deluxe Town Diner will feature extraordinary breakfast foods (notably fantastic jonnycakes, ployes, pancakes, and waffles) and upscale versions of American diner fare.

BULL | 57 JFK St, Cambridge | Located in the bottom floor of the Galeria in Harvard Square, the focus here will be Korean barbecue, where customers cook marinated meats and seafood over tabletop gas grills.

POE'S CHESTER SQUARE PUB | 728 Tremont St, Boston | Taking over a former video-rental store (remember those?), this outlet from the Parish Cafe crew is a new casual neighborhood playground for talented chef Brian Poe, who elevated the food at the Rattlesnake out of chain-level hell.

BOSPHORUS | 1164 Cambridge St, Cambridge | I've often called Turkish one of the world's great cuisines, and think it's a bit underserved and underrated in Boston. This new spot will help remedy that shortfall for folks in and around Inman Square, right next door to forthcoming artisanal butcher Akimenko Meats.

SPEED'S FENWAY | Boston | Coming to an as-yet-unspecified storefront location near Fenway Park, the king of Boston dogs is expanding beyond its small truck in Roxbury's Newmarket Square. Speed's monster frankfurter with house-made condiments and chili ought to become an essential pre-Sox stop.

STAFF MEAL | Boston's food-truck renaissance rolls on, thanks in part to a newly friendly city bureaucracy. The mobile cuisine at Staff Meal, the brainchild of veteran fine-dining chefs Adam Gendreau and Patrick Gilmartin, will center on cured, pickled, stewed, fried, and roasted meats and offal, like a swank-meat-blend burger, oxtail sandwiches, and chicken-liver lasagna. Watch this space for detailed reviews as these places get rolling!

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Entrée prices are rounded to the nearest dollar. Restaurant hours, credit-card policy, and liquor information are not included, so be sure to call ahead.

CAPSULES OF RECENT RESTAURANT REVIEWS

THE CITIZEN PUBLIC HOUSE & OYSTER BAR | 1310 Boylston St, Boston | 617.450.9000 | $16–$24 | Latest gastropub from the Franklin Café guys doesn't just have a blackboard wall that lists all 70 whiskeys. The whole thing is done in black and dark colors, the better to set off brilliant food and drink, starting with a choice raw bar, pig trotter schnitzel (easiest weird thing you'll ever eat), a darn good cassoulet, craft cocktails galore, and toffee bread pudding. Not all that loud, considering how dark it is.

PETIT ROBERT CENTRAL | 101 Arch St, Boston (Back Bay) | 617.737.1777 | $16–$22 | We've been tough on Jacky Robert's little empire — as his formula of pre-Julia-Child-style French restaurants can be as fake as chop suey — but with the larger Petit Robert Central, we're beginning to join the fun. For example, "Jacky's fried duck confit with kimchee sushi roll" is ghastly fusion, but perfectly good eating. For dessert, the cheese plate steals the show — I've had more elaborate trimmings, but seldom more satisfying cheeses.

ZOCALO COCINA MEXICANA | 35 Stanhope St, Boston (Back Bay) | 617.456.7849 | $13–$24 | The whole Mexican food situation in Boston is so underdeveloped that Zocalo gets a certain amount of love just for opening downtown, even if there have been few improvements from a former Brighton location. Tableside guacamole is still very good, as are tortilla soup and pozole oaxaqueno if you ask for chipotle sauce. Simple grilled things with tacos are good, as are a number of vegetarian choices, and pumpkin flan.

THE FOUNDRY ON ELM | 255 Elm St, Somerville | 617.628.9999 | $9–$19 | A vast, sweeping bar-restaurant inside a modest storefront. The menu straddles comfort and bistro themes so successfully that you can have a sushi-like "crudo" of the day, an extreme beer, poutines, sandwiches, flatbread pizzas, organic salmon, and a brownie sundae for dessert — and still dress like anyone in Somerville.

DEUXAVE | 371 Comm Ave | 617.517.5915 | $21–$38 | Intended to be a neighborhood restaurant, Deuxave has the arranged food, fine service, and some of the price points of the fancier spots. As a gastropub kind of guy, our critic found this an awkward straddle, but the simple food like onion soup, steak, and — okay — deconstructed cheesecake are worth the difference.

C. TSAR'S | 344 Walnut St, Newtonville | 617.332.4653 | $15–$25 | Chef Christos Tsardounis didn't wait for the inevitable. He down-marketed his own bistro, Ariadne, keeping favorite appetizers in slightly less elaborate presentations, adding superb thin-crust pizza, and very reasonable entrées. Didn't see that great Ariadne rack of lamb, but we bet it will be a special, because the nice room and well-dressed crowd didn't skip a beat, either. They just can afford to come more often.

UMAMI | 1704 Beacon St, Brookline | 617.879.9100 | $12–$20 | Don't let the name fool you, this is a bistro with some Asian fusion touches, an excellent price point (for modest portions) and novel cocktails. They don't sell sushi here. Get over it, dress up a little, and enjoy sweet-potato fries, seared salmon with soba noodles and baby bok choy, and desserts that are more visual than fattening.

FOR RESTAURANT ARCHIVES, GO TO THEPHOENIX.COM

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CLOWNIN'

Canadian-based performance company **CIRQUE DU SOLEIL** never fails to thrill and amuse with its funky mix of daring aerial feats, circus arts, and amped-up street entertainment. Their parade of acts has drawn upon everything from the origin of life to old-fashioned fairy tales, and their latest show, ***DRALION***, is an East-meets-West celebration of air, water, fire, and earth. If you haven't caught a Cirque show yet, it's about time. See what all the fuss is about at Agganis Arena, 925 Comm Ave, Boston | January 5-9 | $45-$95 | 800.745.3000 or ticketmaster.com.

WAKE UP!

THURSDAY 30 | Being a house band on a popular late-night show is a full-time gig. Learning all those obvious and silly covers for when guests come out, like when Kevin Eubanks cues up "Iron Man" for Robert Downey Jr.? That's hard work. Luckily for us, the **ROOTS** are one of the hardest working bands in showbiz, so they can hold down *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, release two ridiculously solid CDs in the same calendar year, and even find time to tour behind them. They stop by Showcase Live, 23 Patriot Place, Foxborough | 8 pm | $40 | 800.745.3000 or ticketmaster.com.

MARX

SATURDAY | Will Groucho go the way of his namesake Karl into the dustbin of history? Not as long as there are New Year's Day hangovers and **MARX BROTHERS TRIPLE FEATURES**. Savor witty quotes from *A Night at the Opera* (1935; 1:30 + 7:30 pm), *A Day at the Races* (1937; 3:30 + 9:30 pm), and the rarely screened *A Night in Casablanca* (1946; noon + 5:45 pm), and your aching head will feel better in no time.
Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St, Cambridge | January 1 | $15 for three films | 617.876.6837 or brattlefilm.org

ELECTRO

SATURDAY | Let's hope local synth-happy electro-poppers **FREEZEPOP** have some energy left after their New Year's Eve gig at the Pill. We wouldn't blame them if their asses were dragging a bit tonight — but, happily, we have a feeling they won't be. They share a bill with fellow electro acts **NEW COLLISIONS**, **PLUSHGUN** and **ANDRE OBIN**, so hit up Rock City for some fresh hooks and start 2011 off right.
Great Scott, 1222 Comm Ave, Allston | 9 pm | $12; $10 advance | ticketweb.com

THE KING

TUESDAY | Elvis has not yet officially left the building — and probably never will. Join author **MICAH NATHAN** as he reads from his new novel, *Losing Graceland*, a coming-of-age story that follows a college student on a road trip to Memphis with a mysterious man who may or may not be the King. After the reading, peivises will gyrate anew during an Elvis-themed dance-off for a gift card (costumes strongly encouraged).
Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St, Brookline | 7 pm | free | 617.566.6660 or brooklinebooksmith.com

SWEET DREAMS

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY | There's something magical about Iceland, and to us, much of the mystique comes from its music: the haunting, ethereal sounds of Sigur Rós, or the surreal otherworldliness of Björk. In the East Coast premiere of ***DANCING BEHIND MY EYELIDS*** (named after a Múm song), Hopelandic Theatre Company mashes up the celestial sounds of Reykjavík with Shakespeare, experimental theater, and movement for a dreamlike effect.

Oberon, 2 Arrow St, Cambridge | January 4-5 and 11-12 @ 8 pm | $15-$25 | 866.811.4111 or cluboberon.com

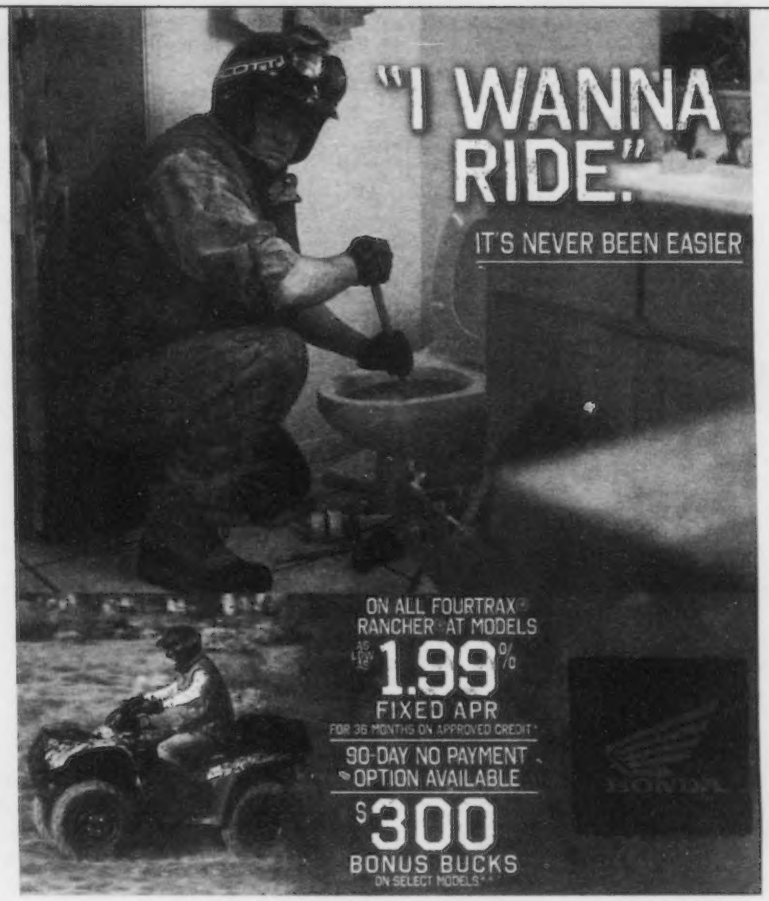
HOT TIX

TRACY MORGAN | February 26 at the Wilbur Theatre, Boston | $49-$59 | On sale Friday at noon | ticketmaster.com

PABLO FRANCISCO | March 5 at the Wilbur Theatre, Boston | $20-$32 | On sale Friday at noon | ticketmaster.com

GLASSJAW | March 25 at the Paradise Rock Club, Boston | $20 | On sale Saturday at noon | ticketmaster.com

GRACE POTTER & THE NOCTURNALS | March 25 at the House of Blues, Boston | $25-$39.50 | On sale Saturday, January 8, at 10 am | livenation.com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BRUNCH TIME

THE MORNING AFTER

After a late night of First Night revelry, you'll want to fill up on carbs, grease, and maybe even a little hair of the dog. The following brunch spots had New Year's Day availability as of press time; we recommend you call ahead.

AQUITAINE | 569 Tremont St, Boston | The $9.95 prix fixe brunch from 10 to 11 am offers warm cinnamon buns and cheesy omelettes; latecomers can scarf down Parisian-style sandwiches. | 10 am-3 pm | 617.424.8577

DEEP ELLUM | 477 Cambridge St, Allston | Your hangover is calling out for skillet fries smothered in gravy, or a BBQ-pork breakfast plate. | 10 am-4 pm | 617.787.2330

THE FRIENDLY TOAST | 1 Kendall Square, Cambridge | Mmmm . . . those King Cakes. Plenty of vegetarian/vegan options too. | 8 am-1 am | 617.621.1200

TOWNE STOVE AND SPIRITS | at Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | This Lydia Shire/Jasper White venture's bacon sandwiches and chicken and waffles should do the trick. | 11 am-3 pm | 617.247.0400

UNION BAR AND GRILLE | 1357 Washington St, Boston | Fill up on steak and eggs and a Union Mary, or try the Early Riser option from 10 to 11 am for only $9.95. | 10 am-3 pm | 617.423.0555

WOODWARD | at the Ames Hotel, 1 Court St, Boston | Contemporary American cuisine; dishes include sourdough blueberry pancakes and several twists on hash. | 8 am-5 pm | 617.979.8200

FIRST NIGHT 2011

FIRST NIGHT AND BEYOND: 100+ MORE THINGS TO DO ON NEW YEAR'S EVE. FOLLOW @BOSTONFUNSHIT ON TWITTER OR VISIT THEPHOENIX.COM/NEWYEARS

All events on this page are included with the purchase of a First Night button, $18. For more information or to view the full schedule, visit firstnight.org.

FILM

FIRST NIGHT FILM PROGRAM AT THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS | at 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | Hour-long program of cutting-edge shorts: Stefan Eling's *Cyber*, Tomek Ducki's *Lifeline*, Priit Tender's *Miriam's Broken Picture*, Ruben Ostlund's *Incident at a Bank*, Denis Villeneuve's *Next Floor* | 10:45 am + noon + 1:15 + 2:30 + 3:45 pm

"BOMBAY CINEMA" SERIES | at Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Films in Hindi with English subtitles | *Guru* | noon | *Lage Raho Munnabhai* | 3 pm | *Race* | 5:30 pm | *Fanaa* | 8:15 pm

"MAGIC LANTERN PICTURE SHOW" | at Hynes Convention Center, Room 200, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Whimsical shorts and photoplays, including Phil Mucci's *The Listening Dead*, Nathan Palmer's *Monkey Vs. Robot*, Suzanne Twining's *Terminator Tomatoes*, and Tate Hausman's *Store Wars: The Organic Rebellion* | 1-6 pm

WFNX PRESENTS: ROCK & ROLL FILMS | at the Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St, Boston | "Back at You! . . . Punk Vids from the KINODV Archive" (classic punk and new wave footage) | 2 + 6:30 + 8:40 pm | *Taqwacore: The Birth of Punk Islam* | 3:30 pm | *Strange Powers: Stephin Merritt and the Magnetic Fields* | 5 pm | *Do It Again: One Man's Quest to Reunite the Kinks* | 7:15 pm | *Who is Harry Nilsson (And Why is Everyone Talkin' About Him?)* | 9:15 pm

"COLOR OF FILM" SERIES | at Hynes Convention Center, Room 200, 900 Boylston St, Boston | *Fresh Peas* (documentary short) | 7:30 pm | *Paperboy* (narrative short) | 7:40 pm | *The Cycle* (narrative short) | 8:15 pm | *Me and the Devil Blues* (documentary short) | 8:40 pm | *American Faust: From Condi to Neo Condi* (documentary feature) | 9:10 pm

ANIME

NEW ENGLAND ANIME SOCIETY SERIES | at Hynes Convention Center, Room 312, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Classic and contemporary Japanese anime, including *Hello Kitty*, *Hamtaro*, and *Mighty Space Miners* | Programs every half hour 1-4:30 pm and 9-10 pm; NEAS event highlights 5 pm; *Millennium Actress* 7:30-9 pm

MUSIC

LIONEL LOUEKE TRIO + TAKESHI OHBAYASHI QUARTET | at Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass Ave, Boston | jazz | 6:30 pm

HEY MAMA | at St. Paul's Cathedral, 138 Tremont St, Boston | Americana rock | 7:30 pm

SHIMON BEN-SHIR | at the Boston Public Library, Rabb Hall, Copley Square, Boston | World music | 7:30 + 8:30 pm

KOMINAS BAND | at Boston Common | Pakistani-American punk rock sung in English and Punjabi | 7:30 pm

WALTER SICKERT & THE ARMY OF BROKEN TOYS PRESENT THE STEAMCRUNK LOUNGE | at Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Music and performance; guests include Trabants, Meff & JoJo's Tiny Instrument Revue, Johnny Blazes, and Madge of Honor | 7:30 pm

INTRANSITIVE RECORDINGS | at Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | music from Benjamin Nelson, Oxtim, C. Spencer Yeh, and Xela | 7:45-11:15 pm

BETTYE LaVETTE + JENNY DEE & THE DEELINQUENTS | at Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave, Boston | Soul/R&B | 8 pm

DAVID WAX MUSEUM | at St. Paul's Cathedral, 138 Tremont St, Boston | Roots folk | 9 pm

FATAL FLAW | at the Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common | Catchy rock | 10 pm

CASS MCCOMBS BAND | at the Modern Theatre, 525 Washington St, Boston | Folk rock | 10 pm

WBZ-TV COPLEY SQUARE COUNTDOWN WITH DJ DIE YOUNG | in Copley Square, Boston | Dance music | 10 pm

FIREWORKS

BOSTON COMMON | shit exploding in the sky | 7 pm

BOSTON HARBOR | best time to makeout on a rooftop | midnight

FIREWORKS CRUISE | Pros: closest view of First Night fireworks, you're on a boat; cons: booze-free, ticketed event | 11:30 pm

CLASSICAL

PROJECT STEP | at First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough St, Boston | Junior chamber ensemble and cello choir | 1 + 2 pm

OPERA BOSTON | at Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St, Boston | *First the Music and Then the Words*, a one-act opera by Antonio Salieri | 8:30 + 10:30 pm

HEINRICH CHRISTENSEN | at King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St, Boston | organ works by Bach and Schumann | 9 pm

FERNANDO OTERO | at the Boston Public Library, Rabb Hall, Copley Square, Boston | Argentine composer and pianist | 9:30 + 10:30 pm

COMEDY

IMPROVBOSTON | at Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Improv based on audience input | Family friendly performances in the auditorium at 1:45 + 4:15 pm; improv for an adult audience in Hall C at 3 + 7:30 + 8:45 + 10 pm

JIM LAULETTA | at the Park Plaza Hotel, Terrace Room, 50 Park Plaza, Boston | Stand-up | 8 pm

TONY V + BRAD MASTRANGELO | at the Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | stand-up | 8 pm

TRIVIA DUDE!

MORGAN WHITE JR.: THE MAN FROM T.R.I.V.I.A. | at the Hynes Convention Center, Room 310, 900 Boylston St, Boston | White shows off his endless trivia knowledge; the crowd picks the categories and asks the questions | 1:30 + 2:45 + 4 pm

PERFORMANCE

NEIL HORSKY'S "FLUXSIGNMENT 57: A BICYCLE-POWERED PUPPET THEATER" | at the Hynes Convention Center, Room 202, 900 Boylston St, Boston | shadow puppetry using a light powered by an exercise bike | 1-6 pm

THE BLUE FLOWER | at the Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St, Cambridge | American Repertory Theater musical; first 100 button holders at the box office receive tickets, starting at noon | 2 pm

BOSTON BALLET'S *THE NUTCRACKER* | at the Opera House, 539 Washington St, Boston | One free ticket per button starting at 10 am at the Opera House box office; 100 tickets maximum | 7:30 pm

BOSTON BHANGRA | at the Hynes Convention Center Mini Ballroom, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Indian folk dance | 7:30 + 9:15 pm

COMMONWEALTH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY | at Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St, Boston | "A Shakespearean Cabaret!": modern and classic songs from and inspired by Shakespeare | 7:30 + 9:30 pm

DEAN WAREHAM + BRITTA PHILLIPS + NINA NASTASIA | at the Paramount Theatre, 559 Washington St, Boston | Dean & Britta's *13 Most Beautiful . . . Songs for Andy Warhol's Screen Tests*, a multimedia performance with film and live music, plus opener Nina Nastasia | 8 pm

MONKEYHOUSE | at the Hynes Convention Center Mini Ballroom, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Contemporary dance | 8:15 + 10 pm

Dean Wareham and Britta Phillips

WINTER PREVIEW

Film

THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU Matt Damon and Emily Blunt star in George Nolfi's adaptation of the Philip K. Dick story.

FREEZE FRAMES

THE MOVIES CHILL OUT TO START THE YEAR

_BY PETER KEOUGH

So, it's time for *Another Year*, meaning not just 2011 but also the latest film from *Happy-Go-Lucky* director Mike Leigh, a traipse through four seasons in the lives of ordinary people, exploring their small joys and tragedies. Kind of like *Blue Valentine*, but with no oral sex.

That pretty much sums up the next few months on the big screen: life as we know it, with the occasional foray into the supernatural, the horrific, the fantastic, and the absurd — films like *The Green Hornet*, *The Rite*, *The Adjustment Bureau*, and *Justin Bieber: Never Say Never*, which these days are also a lot like life as we know it.

JANUARY

The year starts with controversy, namely Derek Cianfrance's ***BLUE VALENTINE*** (January 7), depicting several years in the lives of a young couple who have ups and downs and also go down on one another; the MPAA rated the film NC-17 for a while and then thought better of it. Ryan Gosling and Michelle Williams are the ratings-crossed lovers.

Also busted is the anti-hero of ***CASINO JACK*** (January 7), George Hickenlooper's fictionalized account of the crimes and punishment of Jack Abramoff starring Kevin Spacey and Barry Pepper. Sadly, this is Hickenlooper's last film; he died after making it.

Expect more bad behavior in Shana Feste's ***COUNTRY STRONG*** (January 7). Gwyneth Paltrow plays a country singer who's just out of rehab. Could she win an Oscar for it like Jeff Bridges did for *Crazy Heart*? Tim McGraw, Garrett Hedlund, and Leighton Meester offer backup harmonies.

Probably not planning on getting an Oscar is newcomer Claire Foy as the title suspected sorceress in Dominic Sena's ***SEASON OF THE WITCH*** (January 7). She might be causing the plague, so Nicolas Cage, as a 13th-century knight, escorts her to a monastery and says things like, "If she is not a witch, then she is not yours to burn!" Shades of *The Seventh Seal*? Probably not.

These days our knights are superheroes like ***THE GREEN HORNET*** (January 14), here directed by the always fascinating Michel Gondry. Seth Rogen plays the newspaper publisher who supplements his day job by fighting crime at night. And they say print journalism is dead. With Jay Chou, Christoph Waltz, and Cameron Diaz.

Less heroic, but equally super is the down-and-out magician of ***THE ILLUSIONIST*** (January 14). Sylvain Chomet (*The Triplets of Belleville*) adapts this animated version of a script by Jacques Tati. Maybe magical powers can help solve ***THE DILEMMA*** (January 14), a romantic comedy in which Vince Vaughn plays a guy who discovers that his best friend's wife is stepping out on him. What should he do? If magic doesn't work, extortion comes to mind. Ron Howard directs, and Kevin James and Winona Ryder co-star.

THE GREEN HORNET 3D Michel Gondry directs Seth Rogen as the newspaper publisher who supplements his day job by fighting crime.

Dilemmas aplenty trouble the lives in Mike Leigh's ***ANOTHER YEAR*** (opening date TBA), but somehow when the characters are played by actors like Jim Broadbent, it all seems much more touching, funny, and humane. Not to mention Ruth Sheen and the amazing Lesley Manville.

Now here's what a Mike Leigh film would be like if Guillermo del Toro wrote the screenplay: in Troy Nixey's ***DON'T BE AFRAID OF THE DARK*** (opening date TBA), a young girl moves in with her dad and his new girlfriend, and along with the usual conflict and resentment, she has to deal with bizarre creatures infesting the house. Katie Holmes and Guy Pearce star.

And here's what a Mike Leigh film would be like if it starred Ashton Kutcher and Natalie Portman and Ivan Reitman directed: in ***NO STRINGS ATTACHED*** (January 21), two lovers try to keep things strictly physical. Good luck with that in a Hollywood rom-com!

But Mike Leigh can't serve as a gratuitous comparison for every film this year. For example, Simon West's ***THE MECHANIC*** (January 28), in which an elite assassin takes on a new apprentice, will just have to get along on its own, with stars Jason Statham and Ben Foster.

Also, you don't need Mike Leigh when Gus Van Sant is handling things, as in ***RESTLESS*** (January 28), in which a terminally ill girl and her funeral-attending admirer encounter the ghost of a kamikaze pilot. Well, why not? Mia Wasikowska and Schuyler Fisk star.

By the way, have I mentioned that these movies are starting to get a little creepy? Like ***THE RITE*** (January 28), a thriller about an exorcism school in the Vatican. Kind of Hogwarts with holy water, I guess. Mikael Håfström directs, and Colin O'Donoghue and Anthony Hopkins star.

FEBRUARY

This month always seemed claustrophobic to me, so it's fitting that it starts with Alister Grierson's ***SANCTUM*** (February 4), in which explorers get lost in a labyrinthine system of underwater caverns. Rhys Wakefield stars and James Cameron produced. For another version of the same tale of panic and entrapment, there is Christian E. Christiansen's ***THE ROOMMATE*** (February 4), in which a co-ed starts having doubts about the title co-habitant.

I don't know about you, but all this confinement makes me want to soar like ***THE EAGLE*** (February 11), a sword-and-sandal epic from Kevin Macdonald in which a Roman soldier (Channing Tatum) seeks to restore the reputation of his lost father. It also makes me think, what the heck — ***JUST GO WITH IT*** (February 11), whatever "it" might be. In this case, it's some poor, duplicitous schmuck's unrequited love. Dennis Dugan directs, and Adam Sandler, Jennifer Aniston, and Nicole Kidman star.

Meanwhile, what an amazing year it is that sees the release of both ***JUSTIN BIEBER: NEVER SAY NEVER*** and ***GNOMEO AND JULIET*** on the same day (February 11)! The former is, of course, the long-awaited documentary about the 16-year-old superstar, directed by Jon Chu. The latter is Kelly Asbury's animated adaptation of the tragedy by William Shrekspeare, er, Shakespeare, featuring the voices of James McAvoy and Emily Blunt.

Next follows what seems like three extreme versions of a midlife crisis:

In Jaume Collet-Serra's ***UNKNOWN*** (February 18), a man emerges from a coma to discover someone has stolen his identity. A common enough experience when you've reached the age of star Liam Neeson. Pretty Diane Kruger plays a sympathetic friend.

In Patrick Lussier's ***DRIVE ANGRY 3D*** (February 25), a father goes nuts in pursuit of the bums who did in his daughter. Needless to say, Nicolas Cage is in the starring role.

And the perennially adolescent Farrelly Brothers are back with ***HALL PASS*** (February 25): here a couple of bozos finagle permission from their wives to cheat — the catch being the wives get to do likewise. With Owen Wilson and Christina Applegate.

MARCH

It seems like eons since the last adaptation of a Philip K. Dick story. On the other hand, the whole world has turned into a Philip K. Dick story. In George Nolfi's ***THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU*** (March 4), a politician and a ballet dancer fall in love but are kept apart by mysterious forces. Could it be the Black Swan? With Matt Damon and Emily Blunt.

As a matter of fact, every movie this month seems like it's based on a Philip K. Dick story. In Jonathan Liebesman's ***BATTLE: LOS ANGELES*** (March 11), Aaron Eckhart and the Marines take on the aliens in LA. Damn those illegals! In Simon Wells's ***MARS NEEDS MOMS*** (March 11), those aliens not busy battling the Marines in Los Angeles are kidnapping spoiled kids' mothers; it's with Joan Cusack and Seth Green. In Neil Burger's ***LIMITLESS*** (March 18), which stars Robert De Niro, Bradley Cooper, and Anna Friel, a man discovers a potion that confers superhuman powers. Didn't we already see that in *Love and Other Drugs*? And finally, lest we spend a whole year without a film about comic books and aliens, and the geeks who love them, there's Greg Mottola's ***PAUL*** (March 18); Seth Rogen and Simon Pegg star.

WINTER PREVIEW

Games

DRIVE, HE SAID *Shift 2 Unleashed: Need for Speed* updates your friends' high scores in real time and promises sim-style racing with your choice of sexy sports cars.

SECOND TIME AROUND

THE GAMES OF WINTER PLAY IT SAFE

_BY MITCH KRPATA

Is any business more risk-averse than the video-game industry? In this business, there are two inarguable truths: if a game succeeds, it will spawn a sequel, and if it fails, it won't be due to a lack of shameless copying of an earlier bestseller. Perhaps it's no surprise then that the winter-release calendar is rife with familiar names, each with a 2 or a 3 appended, or that even the occasional attempts to establish new franchises all sound suspiciously familiar.

On the other hand, more than any other form of entertainment, games benefit from iteration and revision. A strong but flawed first effort can, with some polish, become a groundbreaking sequel — consider the quantum leap from the first *Uncharted* game to the second. As we look ahead to the games of the new year, it's worth keeping that in mind. Otherwise, you might get depressed.

Speaking of flawed first efforts, Sony's 2008 release *LittleBigPlanet* was a noble idea that, like most noble ideas, was torn to shreds as soon as ordinary people got their hands on it. The game's premise was to let gamers create and share their own side-scrolling levels. Most of the user-created levels weren't much fun to play, but they sure did contain a lot of virtual cocks and balls. With ***LITTLEBIGPLANET 2*** (January 18; PlayStation 3), developer Media Molecule is even more ambitious. Instead of creating levels for just one game, LBP2 players will be given the tools to build entirely new games from scratch — and, considering the prurient sophmoric hijinks that ensued with the first edition, gamers are sure to give us lots of tools in return.

In Electronic Arts' ***DEAD SPACE 2*** (January 25; PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC), players will need to master several tools of destruction in order to survive. The first game was a solid survival horror adventure set aboard an abandoned spaceship. The sequel looks to continue the gory good times with an array of industrial-strength weapons, including an arc welder and a giant circular saw blade. Where the original was single-player only, *Dead Space 2* will include a team-based multiplayer mode pitting humans against the gruesome necromorphs. If that sounds a lot like versus mode in *Left 4 Dead*, rest assured that it is no accident.

One wouldn't have thought that *Test Drive Unlimited* was a big enough hit to warrant a follow-up, but its massive, open-world approach to the racing genre received critical acclaim upon its release in 2006, so the real surprise might be that it's taken this long for Atari to come up with ***TEST DRIVE UNLIMITED 2*** (February 8; Playstation 3, Xbox 360, PC). As with the original, the game's race courses are painstakingly detailed recreations of real-world locations, specifically Hawaii and Ibiza. The sequel also retains RPG-like character progression, on-foot segments, and seamless drop-in, drop-out multiplayer.

Taking the phrase "if at first you don't succeed, try, try again" to heart, Sega is making their umpteenth attempt to appeal to hardcore gamers on the Wii with ***CONDUIT 2*** (February 15). Sure, Sega's past attempts at M-rated Wii games have resulted in commercial flops such as *House of the Dead: Overkill*, *MadWorld*, and, oh yeah, *The Conduit*, but this time things will be different. After all, *Conduit 2* boasts slick graphics, online and split-screen multiplayer, and a labyrinthine sci-fi storyline. You know, all the things that made the first game such a hit.

After footage of an ultra-violent game called "Close Range" went viral a few years ago, it turned out that the video, which featured an endless procession of people getting shot in the face at point-blank range, was a parody by *The Onion*. Unfortunately, that doesn't seem to be the case with ***BULLETSTORM*** (February 22; PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC). Players are rewarded not only for mowing down mutant baddies with ludicrously large guns, but for doing so in style. Headshot bonuses are a staple of the genre, but *Bulletstorm* may be the first game to give extra credit for ass shots. Finally, the game that will convince Roger Ebert that games are art!

Say this for ***KILLZONE 3*** (February 22; PlayStation 3): at least Sony didn't go the easy route and call it *Killzone 3D*. Even so, this game is the tip of the spear for Sony's campaign to sell three-dimensional television sets, and as such, will likely be judged by whether it can pull off newfangled visuals, not whether its gameplay can stand out in the crowded shooter market. Not that the developers, Guerrilla Games, aren't giving it the old college try: *Killzone 3* includes a revamped melee system, which promises to let players get up close and personal with the Helghast army. But one question remains: do you really *want* to see a bashed-in alien face in 3D?

For good and bad, nobody makes games like BioWare. Crafters of intricate fantasy worlds and complex, nuanced characters, they are also incapable of designing an interface that meets the most basic standards of usability. Enjoying a BioWare game is like breaking into a bank vault: it takes months of effort and planning to get to the goods inside, and even then, there's no guarantee you'll succeed. So will it be worth it to try to penetrate the carapace of ***DRAGON AGE II*** (March 18; PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC)? It'll help if you played the first game, since the sequel will import your old save data to shape the trajectory of the story line. Me, I just want to be able to navigate the inventory menus without needing a compass.

Given recent events on the Korean peninsula, THQ's ***HOMEFRONT*** (March 8; PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC) might be more timely than anyone could have predicted. Set in the year 2027, *Homefront* portrays a depleted United States facing invasion by a formidable North Korean army. As a soldier in occupied Colorado, the player must resort to guerrilla tactics against a vastly superior foreign military. Sound familiar? It should. That's because *Homefront* was written by John Milius, the noted right-wing paranoiac who brought us *Red Dawn*. Wolverines!

Besides having the most confusing title in history, ***SHIFT 2 UNLEASHED: NEED FOR SPEED*** (March 8; PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC) is also the game that appeared in an unskippable advertisement at the beginning of last fall's otherwise spotless *Need for Speed: Hot Pursuit*. That's two strikes against it. But *Shift 2* does make use of *Hot Pursuit*'s addictive Autolog feature, which updates your friends' high scores in real time, and if nothing else, promises sim-style racing with your choice of sexy sports cars. Without police helicopters, though, it's hard to imagine another *Need for Speed* game getting the job done.

The first two F.E.A.R. games were intriguing but uneven sci-fi shooters, and if the lazy title is any indication, ***F.3.A.R.*** (March 22; PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, PC) will continue the tradition. This time around, there'll be cooperative play to go along with the usual slow-motion bullet time, heavily armed mechs, and jump scares. Developer Day 1 Studios has even enlisted legendary horror filmmaker John Carpenter to help make sense of their increasingly convoluted story line. Here's hoping the third time is the charm for a series that has never quite made good on its promise. If not, at least it makes way for the inevitable F.E.4.R — which I'm sure we'll be discussing in the 2013 preview. ⊛

NO PARODY Headshot bonuses are a staple of the genre, but *Bulletstorm* may be the first game to give extra credit for ass shots.

WINTER PREVIEW

Theater

This rich season includes productions by Peter Brook and a rock musical about Prometheus with a score by Serj Tankian.

WINTER'S TALES

HEM, CHAIM, BUCKY, POPPINS, KUNTZ, AND MORE

BY CAROLYN CLAY

The winner of the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for drama. An exhaustive chat-up by the inventor of the geodesic dome. Visits from Ireland's leading theater troupes, not to mention from the folks who brought us *Catz*. Aeschylus's Prometheus taught to sing by System of a Down. A new play from poster boy for political incorrectness Neil LaBute. And two productions that have touched the holy hem of Peter Brook. With such tantalizers in the wings, it's hard to grieve over the exit of all the Rockettes, Scrooges, and tipsy Welshmen that see out the old year.

RUINED | Huntington Theatre Company | January 7–February 6 | South Africa native Liesl Tommy directs Lynn Nottage's 2009 Pulitzer winner, a co-production of HTC, La Jolla Playhouse, and Berkeley Rep. Based on the playwright's 2004 interviews of women fleeing civil war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the much-decorated drama centers on a Mother Courage–like businesswoman (Tonye Patano of Showtime's *Weeds*) who survives by not taking sides. She sells beer and girls — many of them "ruined" by rape before turning to prostitution — to any man who'll check his gun at the canteen door.
BU Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave, Boston | $25-$89 | 617.266.0800 or huntingtontheatre.org

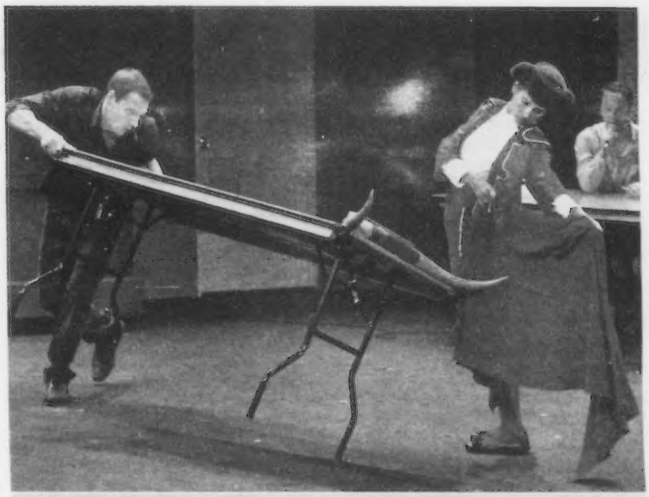
R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER: THE HISTORY (AND MYSTERY) OF THE UNIVERSE | American Repertory Theater | January 14–February 5 | Thomas Derrah stars as the futurist, environmentalist, and geodesic-dome designer in this one-man play written and directed by D.W. Jacobs and drawn from the life and writings of R. Buckminster Fuller. Warns the *San Diego Reader*: "Caution, this play . . . contains ideas."
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St, Cambridge | $25-$35 | 617.547.8300 or americanrepertorytheater.org

NEIGHBORS | Company One | January 14–February 5 | One of Boston's feistier small companies is out to shock us with the New England premiere of Branden Jacobs-Jenkins's 2010 play, which throws a bomb into the "entirely post-racial lifestyle" of a black professor and his white wife in the form of a "rowdy, tacky, shameless, and uncouth" family of black actors in blackface, performing all manner of minstrelsy, that moves in next door. *TimeOut* called the show "a wild carnival ride: it will make you scream, or ill, or both."
Boston Center for the Arts Plaza, 539 Tremont St, Boston | $18-$38 | 617.933.8600 or bostontheatrescene.com

IRISH FESTIVAL | ArtsEmerson | February 2-13 | Dublin's Abbey Theatre has been famous since the days of William Butler Yeats and Seán O'Casey. Galway's Druid Theatre has only been famous since its discovery of Martin McDonagh. Both troupes are on their way here. The Druid's up first with artistic director Garry Hynes's production of McDonagh's lyrical dark comedy *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, in which a disabled orphan gets his big chance as an extra in Robert Flaherty's 1934 film *The Man of Aran*. The Abbey follows with *Howie the Rookie* author Mark O'Rowe's fantastical *Terminus*, a set of intertwining, rap-tinged monologues in which three people are ripped from the quotidian to enter a world of "singing serial killers, avenging angels, and lovesick demons."
Paramount Mainstage, 555 Washington St, Boston | $25-$79 | 617.824.8000 or artsemerson.org

MY NAME IS ASHER LEV | Lyric Stage Company of Boston | February 11–March 12 | The able Scott Edmiston is at the helm of Aaron Posner's 2009 stage adaptation of the 1972 novel by Chaim Potok. Its focus is a talented Hasidic youth growing up in New York City in the 1950s, where his artistic bent puts him in conflict with his father, who is dedicated to furthering the religion.
140 Boylston St, Boston | $29-$56 | 617.585.5678 or lyricstage.com

SURVIVORS Lynn Nottage's 2009 Pulitzer-winning *Ruined* comes to the Huntington.



ONE FOR PAPA Elevator Repair Service return with *The Select*, their take on *The Sun Also Rises*.

MARY POPPINS | Broadway Across America – Boston | February 17–March 20 | A spoonful of sugar hits the Opera House like a missile when everyone's favorite flying nanny touches down in this warbling extravaganza based on stories by P.L. Travers and the Disney movie musical starring Julie Andrews. The show has been running on Broadway for four years; this is Boston's first look.
The Opera House, 539 Washington St, Boston | $28-$93 | 800.982.2787 or broadwayacrossamerica.com/boston

THE HOTEL NEPENTHE | Actors' Shakespeare Project | February 23–March 6 | At the center of a Winter Festival that also includes the Bard's *Cymbeline* (February 9-20) and Jon Lipsky's *Living in Exile* (March 9-20), ASP presents the world premiere of John Kuntz's play, directed by David R. Gammons. Wielding a strong cast that includes the author, it's set on a cold night in America, when 17 disparate characters, one of them a possible time traveler, collide at the title inn of oblivion.
The Storefront on Elm, 255 Elm St, Davis Square, Somerville | $35-$39 | 866.811.4111 or actorsshakespeareproject.org

PROMETHEUS BOUND | American Repertory Theater | February 25–March 25 | Director Diane Paulus has had her way with Shakespeare; now she's shaking up the Greeks. Club Oberon will house the world premiere of this rock musical wrapping Aeschylus's "outcry against tyranny" in a Dionysian vibe. Text and lyrics are by Tony-winning *Spring Awakening* co-creator Steven Sater; music is by Grammy-winning lead singer for System of a Down, Serj Tankian.
Oberon, 2 Arrow St, Cambridge | $25-$65 | 617.547.8300 or americanrepertorytheater.org

REASONS TO BE PRETTY | SpeakEasy Stage Company | March 4–April 2 | Resident Neil LaBute–specialist Paul Melone helms another incendiary *billet* from the playwright and screenwriter. This 2008 script starts with the vicious argument that ensues when a hapless guy describes his longtime girlfriend's looks as merely "regular" and goes on to poke a stick at the value of physical attractiveness in our shallow little lives.
Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA, 527 Tremont St, Boston | $30-$55 | 617.933.8600 or bostontheatrescene.com

THE SELECT (THE SUN ALSO RISES) | ArtsEmerson | March 9-20 | New York-based Elevator Repair Service, which hatched the mesmeric *Catz* from the eggs of *The Great Gatsby*, returns to town with its adaptation, fresh from the Edinburgh Festival (where *The Scotsman* called it "seriously thrilling stuff"), of Ernest Hemingway's post–World War 1 novel.
Paramount Mainstage, 555 Washington St, Boston | $25-$69 | 617.824.8000 or artsemerson.org

A CELEBRATION OF DIRECTOR PETER BROOK | ArtsEmerson | March 23-27 | Here's a rare opportunity to see two small-scale productions helmed by 85-year-old theater legend Peter Brook. On the Paramount Mainstage is the 2008 *Fragments*, which mines the oft-forgotten humor in short works by Samuel Beckett. On display in the theater's Black Box is the Paris-based British director's *The Grand Inquisitor*, a starkly minimalist staging of the famed monologue from Dostoyevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov* that imagines Christ's return to earth during the Spanish Inquisition.
Paramount Center, 555 Washington St, Boston | $25-$79 [*Fragments*]; $49 [*Grand Inquisitor*] | 617.824.8000 or artsemerson.org

WINTER PREVIEW

Dance

SLEEK VIRTUOSITY Jorma Elo's *Plan to B* is featured in a program of his work by Boston Ballet at the Opera House.

TOE SHOES TO TAP SHOES

WINTER DANCE'S TOP 10

BY DEBRA CASH

Whether you're more likely to thrill to '80s funk, to groove on the tap-goes-flamenco experiments of hoofer Savion Glover, or to enjoy classical ballet with a side of buttered popcorn, the winter months' many offerings are guaranteed to keep your spirits up.

NICHOLAS LEICHTER DANCE | Institute of Contemporary Art | January 14-16 | Who knew that the 1980s were coming back to our stages with such a vengeance? World Music/CRASHarts launches a season that — apparently coincidentally — offers a 360-degree re-evaluation of the cultural implications of '70s and '80s funk. New Yorker Nicholas Leichter's high-energy program at the ICA — combining a little house, a little Broadway, and a lot of attitude — includes *Killa*, with music by M.I.A., Basement Jaxx, Lionrock, and Monstah Black, and excerpts from *The Whiz: Emerald City*, a subversive, funk take on the *The Wizard of Oz*. Toto, this street ain't running through Kansas anymore.
100 Northern Ave, Boston | $40 | 617.876.4275 or worldmusic.org

BALÉ FOLCLÓRICO DA BAHIA | Boston Opera House | January 22 | This exuberant, 38-performer Brazilian ensemble dons feathered headdresses and the skimpiest of party clothes to celebrate the spirit of Carnival and the African roots of Candomblé. It's the company's first visit to Boston in seven years (courtesy of Celebrity Series of Boston and World Music/CRASHarts). Intermediate- and advanced-level dancers can participate in a special Afro-Brazilian-dance master class taught by company members on Sunday afternoon.
539 Washington St, Boston | $40-65 | workshop @ the Dance Complex, 536 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $20 pre-registration required | 617.876.4275 or worldmusic.org

SAVION GLOVER IN *SoLo iN TiME* | Boston Opera House | January 29 | Savion Glover has many disciples but no true rivals — the man remains tap's greatest celebrity and one of the most gifted dancers in any genre. Eclectic in his musical tastes, Glover collaborates this time with young dancer Marshall Davis Jr., the Miami phenom who cut his teeth studying with tap great Steve Condos, and he takes the musical line from flamenco guitarists Gabriel Hermida and Francesco Beccaro and percussionist Carmen Estevez, the daughter of a jazz drummer father and flamenco singer mother. As Glover has said, "The old flamenco cats, they're all hooferz. Their stories are from their souls."
539 Washington St, Boston | $40-$65 | 617.482.6661 or celebrityseries.org

BILL T. JONES/ARNIE ZANE DANCE COMPANY IN *BODY AGAINST BODY* | Institute of Contemporary Art | February 4-6 | When Arnie Zane died of AIDS in 1988, one might have predicted that his important, post-modern work with Bill T. Jones would be lost. After all, these often wry, athletic, and pared-down duets depended on the contrast and intimacy between the tall black man and his short Jewish partner. But as Ezra Pound said, "What thou lov'st well is thy true heritage." With a little help from the National Endowment for the Arts, dances that haven't been seen since their original performances have been brought back into repertory and the work has been remounted for a new generation of performers — and for audiences that know Bill T. Jones primarily as the Tony-winning choreographer of the Broadway musical *Fela!* Commissioned by the ICA, *Body Against Body* gets its world premiere alongside new, contextualizing video footage by the company's associate artistic director, Janet Wong.
100 Northern Ave, Boston | $45 | 617.478.3100 or icaboston.org

DOUG VARONE AND DANCERS | Institute of Contemporary Art | February 18-20 | The linked vignettes that make up Doug Varone's magisterial new *Chapters from Broken Novels* grew out of snippets of overheard conversation, underlined quotes, and Varone's random notebook musings. This evening-long dance distills movement with intensity and unexpected revelation — set to a vibrant and surprising score by David Van Tieghem. Varone and his gorgeous dancers are at the top of their game: *Chapters from Broken Novels* is an event not to be missed.
100 Northern Ave, Boston| $40 | 617.876.4275 or worldmusic.org

BALLET IN HD | Coolidge Corner Theatre | February 20 + March 20 | Two matinees of Russian ballet come to Brookline from Saint Petersburg via HD broadcast. The Mariinsky Ballet — known better by its post-revolutionary moniker, the Kirov — puts on a Ballets Russes and Stravinsky festival featuring *Firebird*, *The Wedding* (elsewhere called *Les Noces*), and the controversial Millicent Hodson/Kenneth Archer reconstruction of Nijinsky's *The Rite of Spring*, all under esteemed conductor Valery Gergiev. The dancers headlining this performance are Alexandra Iosifidi and Yekaterina Kondaurova. A month later the Bolshoi presents Alexei Ratmansky's contemporary reworking of Vasily Vaynonen's French Revolution-themed *The Flames of Paris*, starring Natalia Osipova, Denis Savin, and Ivan Vasiliev.
290 Harvard St, Brookline | $20 | 617.734.2500 or coolidge.org/ballet

MAGNIFICENT MUSINGS Doug Varone and Dancers bring *Chapters from Broken Novels* to the ICA.

JOSÉ MATEO BALLET THEATRE | Sanctuary Theatre | February 25-March 13 | *Beauty Strange* brings together more than 15 years of dark repertory chamber ballets by company director José Mateo set to music by Schnittke, Beethoven, and Ginastera, and presented café style in the company's intimate Sanctuary Theatre.
400 Harvard St, Cambridge | $38 | 617.354.7467 or ballettheatre.org

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET | Tsai Performance Center | March 4-5 | The charming Aspen Santa Fe Ballet comes east with a multicultural repertory that, among other things, will show local audiences what Boston Ballet choreographer Jorma Elo's work looks like when performed by another company. Elo's *Red Sweet*, created expressly for Aspen Santa Fe's dancers, will be juxtaposed with Jiri Kylian's *Stamping Ground* and a piece titled *Uneven*, by Spaniard Cayetano Soto, an up-and-coming Munich-based choreographer.
685 Comm Ave, Boston | $47-$57 | 617.482.6661 or celebrityseries.org

FALLING FLIGHT PROJECT, EGOART, INC., AND WEBER DANCE | Springstep | March 20 | Karen Murphy-Fitch, Nicole Pierce, and Jody Weber, joined by guest vocalist Jessica Newman and Maine choreographer Carol Dilley, bring their distinctive companies to Springstep in Medford, where selections from their repertory can be seen in a friendly salon setting. This is a good way to be introduced to local dancemakers who sometimes fly under the radar.
98 George P. Hassett Drive, Medford | $20 | 781.395.0402 or info@springstep.org

BOSTON BALLET ELO EXPERIENCE | Boston Opera House | March 24-April 3 | Boston Ballet gets its busy spring repertory season underway with a close look at the oeuvre of resident choreographer Jorma Elo. Sleek, modernist, and virtuosic, Elo's *Brake the Eyes* (to Mozart) and *Plan to B* (to Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber) are reprised alongside a world premiere. Casting hasn't been announced yet, but expect star billing for Russian-born ballerina Larissa Ponomarenko, whom Elo has called his muse. A good date night for the balletically-inclined.
539 Washington St, Boston | $25-$132 | 617.695.6955 or bostonballet.org

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WINTER PREVIEW

Art

***MAUA, APIA. ONE OF OUR BOAT CREW* (1891)** New York painter John La Farge got to the South Seas about a year before Gauguin.

INTERIORS AND EXTERIORS

GOREY'S "ENIGMAS," LA FARGE'S TAHITI, FIG'S STUDIOS, PERRY WELTY'S VOICEMAIL

_BY GREG COOK

During the icy months of the gray heart of the Boston winter, art offers a chance for you to travel to the balmy South Seas and, via a brainy conceptual artist, the streets of Mexico City. Winter shows also offer a chance to travel through history, from Rembrandt to overlooked women Pop Artists, from early computer art to Edward Gorey's gothic whimsies.

"JOHN LA FARGE'S SECOND PARADISE: VOYAGES IN THE SOUTH SEAS, 1890-1891" | Addison Gallery at Phillips Academy | January 22–March 27 | New York painter John La Farge, a romantic at the forefront of the then retrofacing Arts and Crafts movement, and best known in Boston for his stained-glass windows for Trinity Church in Copley Square, took off in 1890 for a year's sail to Hawaii, Samoa, Tahiti, Tonga, Fiji, and Java — about a year before Gauguin arrived to claim the territory for Paris Modernism. This show, organized by the Yale University Art Gallery, collects his paintings and drawings — including 11 previously unknown sketchbooks — of palm trees, volcanoes, islanders, and coconuts. "Nothing is ever pale," he wrote home to his son. "There is color everywhere."
180 Main St, Andover | Free | 978.749.4015 or andover.edu/museums/addison

"JOE FIG: INSIDE THE PAINTER'S STUDIO" | Massachusetts College of Art and Design | January 25–March 2 | Fig offers glimpses into the studios of art stars via detailed models derived from his artist interviews and documentation of their lairs. MassArt presents Fig's dollhouse-scaled replicas alongside original art by 20 of his who's-who roster of subjects, including Ross Bleckner, Chuck Close, Barnaby Furnas, April Gornik, Julie Mehretu, Matthew Ritchie, and Dana Schutz.
621 Huntington Ave, Boston | Free | 617.879.7333 or massart.edu/galleries.html

"SEDUCTIVE SUBVERSION: WOMEN POP ARTISTS, 1958-1968" | Tufts University Art Gallery | January 27–April 3 | The story of Pop Art is usually a tale of boys: Warhol, Lichtenstein, Rosenquist, and so on. This show, organized by Philadelphia's University of the Arts, rounds up 22 Pop women — including Vija Celmins, Chryssa, Niki de Saint Phalle, Yayoi Kusama, Marisol, Faith Ringgold, and Martha Rosler — and wonders why they have long been overshadowed.
40R Talbot Ave, Medford | Free | 617.627.3518 or ase.tufts.edu/gallery

"RACHEL PERRY WELTY: 24/7" | DeCordova Sculpture Park + Museum | January 29–April 24 | This exhibit is a mid-career survey of the Gloucester and New York-based artist for whom the food her family consumes, the email spam she receives, and the general shrink-wrapped, mass-produced detritus of everyday American life inspires cascading sculptures of bread ties, deadpan videos in which she lip syncs to wrong numbers left on her voice mail, and performances of updating her Facebook status every minute for a whole day.
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln | $12 | 781.259.8355 or decordova.org

"GABRIEL KURI: NOBODY NEEDS TO KNOW THE PRICE OF YOUR SAAB" | Institute of Contemporary Art | February 2–July 4 | A wool tapestry recreating a grocery receipt, trash bins designed to look like a piechart, and aluminum blankets turned into banners are among the artworks featured in this survey of 10 years of sculptures and collages by Mexican conceptual artist Kuri (now based in Belgium), who, like recent ICA subjects Damian Ortega and Dr. Lakra, was part of the Mexico City circle of Gabriel Orozco. Organized by the Blaffer Art Museum at the University of Houston, the show looks, by turns, like a space-alien analysis of our shopping habits and distress signals sent from deep inside Wal-Mart.
100 Northern Boulevard, Boston | $15 | 617.478.3100 or icaboston.org

"STAN VANDERBEEK: THE CULTURE INTERCOM" | MIT's List Visual Arts Center | February 4–April 3 | VanDerBeek began his career working on a 1950s kids TV show and proceeded to become a pioneering tech artist, serving as artist in residence at MIT's Center for Advanced Visual Studies and WGBH TV from 1969 to '71 and collaborating with the likes of Claes Oldenburg, Allan Kaprow, Merce Cunningham, and Yvonne Rainer until his death in 1984. His collages, stop-motion animations, immersive multi-projection film environments, and computer-generated videos often merge a playful, childlike jauntiness and early psychedelia with influences from Dada, the Beats, and Black Mountain College in North Carolina, where he studied. His formal invention parallels his concern that technological advances were outstripping the moral capacity of people to manage them. At times his work questions Cold War politics, violence, and race relations in America, while asserting the responsibility of artists to shape technology to foster a better world.
20 Ames St, Cambridge | Free | 617.253.4680 or listart.mit.edu

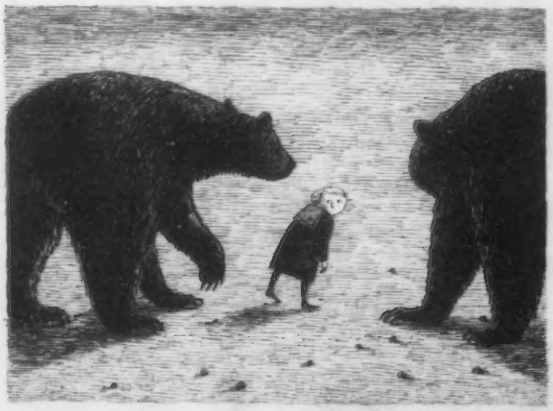
"ELEGANT ENIGMAS: THE ART OF EDWARD GOREY" | Boston Athenaeum | February 9–June 3 | Gorey (1925-2000), the master of neo-Edwardian gothic wit who spent his last years on Cape Cod, gets a well-deserved retrospective of some 180 works. Sampling his cartoony pen-and-ink drawings, from *The Doubtful Guest* to his macabre alphabet book *The Gashlycrumb Tinies*, the show, organized by the Brandywine River Museum, should live up to Gorey's droll goal for his art: "In a way, I hope it is mildly unsettling."
101/2 Beacon St, Boston | suggested donation $5 | 617.227.0270 or bostonathenaeum.org

"CONVERSATIONS: PHOTOGRAPHY FROM THE BANK OF AMERICA COLLECTION" | Museum of Fine Arts | February 9–June 19 | The MFA digs into the art collection of Bank of America (one of our favorite government-bailed-out banks) to highlight 100 images — from Francis Frith's 1858 photo of ancient Egyptian ruins to Lee Friedlander's 1962 shot of a face staring out of a television at the end of a Virginia hotel-room bed to William Eggleston's monumental 1970s photo of a tricycle — for a snapshot history of photography.
465 Huntington Ave, Boston | $20 | 617.267.9300 or mfa.org

"FRANCIS ALŸS: THE MOMENT WHERE SCULPTURE HAPPENS" | Davis Museum at Wellesley College | February 16–June 5 | Belgian-born, Mexico-based Alŷs has stalked an ostrich across Patagonia, wandered Mexico City with a Baretta in his hand, walked the 1948 partition line of Jerusalem at the end of the Arab-Israeli war, chased a tornado, and spent nine hours pushing a large block of ice through the hot streets of Mexico City until all that was left of it was a puddle. In advance of his Museum of Modern Art retrospective opening in May, the Davis Museum offers a small sampler of Alŷs's conceptual shenanigans and his mulling of futility.
106 Central St, Wellesley | Free | 781.283.2051 or davismuseum.wellesley.edu

"GOLDEN: DUTCH AND FLEMISH MASTERWORKS FROM THE ROSE-MARIE AND EIJK VAN OTTERLOO COLLECTION" | Peabody Essex Museum | February 26–June 19 | An exemplary selection of 17th-century northern European art, including Rembrandt, Frans Hals, Jacob van Ruisdael, Jan Brueghel the Elder, and Jan Steen, showcases the brilliance of the region's golden age. The nearly 70 paintings are all drawn from the private collection of a Massachusetts couple.
1 East India Square, Salem | $15 | 866.745.1876 or pem.org

Read Greg Cook's blog at gregcookland.com/journal, where through January 5 he's looking at your nominations for the 2010 New England Art Awards.



B is for BASIL assaulted by bears

THE EDWARD GOREY CHARITABLE TRUST

DROLL GOALS Edward Gorey's "Elegant Enigmas" come to the Athenaeum.

WINTER PREVIEW

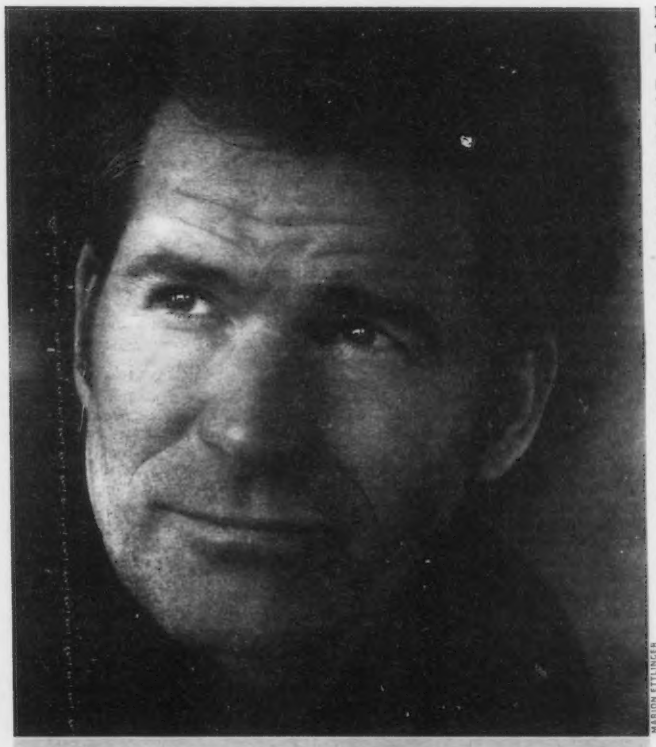
Books

WAR BABY In Deb Olin Unferth's debut novel, a man wandered around South America with a brain injury – her new memoir explains why.

REVOLUTIONARY

WRITERS FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT AT LOCAL BOOK EVENTS

_BY EUGENIA WILLIAMSON



MARION ETTLINGER

A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE Richard Russo has called Andre Dubus III's new memoir "brutal . . . and, yes, thrilling."

Winter is dreadful. Books are the opposite. We offer you the following author events as antidotes to sedentary overeating and bad television.

BARBARA ALMOND | Harvard Book Store | January 10 | The world stopped when Ayelet Waldman wrote that she loved her husband, the novelist Michael Chabon, more than she did their children. Psychologist Barbara Almond has heard worse. Her new book, *The Monster Within: The Hidden Side of Motherhood* (University of California), details the frequent, if taboo, ambivalence that many mothers feel.
Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 7 pm | Free | 617.661.1515 or harvard.com

ILAN STAVANS AND CARLOS YUSHIMOTO | Porter Square Books | January 13 | Not content to let the *New Yorker*'s anointed writers stand alone in their glory, *Granta* has devoted its winter issue to the best young Spanish-language novelists. Anyone hoping to buck America's solipsistic illiteracy of other cultures is advised to attend this reading. It features Stavans — one of the *Granta* judges — and Yushimoto, one of the elect.
Porter Square Shopping Center, 25 White St, Cambridge | 7 pm | Free | 617.491.2220 or portersquarebooks.com

RACHEL POLONSKY | Harvard Book Store | January 13 | When Vyacheslav Molotov wasn't busy helping Stalin commit genocide and sundry other misdeeds, he collected rare and beautiful books. Journalist Rachel Polonsky learned about this when, for a time, she lived in his apartment. The resulting book, *Molotov's Magic Lantern: Travels in Russian History* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), has been praised for defying expectations.
1256 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 7 pm | Free | 617.661.1515 or harvard.com

MIKE YOUNG | Brookline Booksmith | January 14 | The Booksmith continues its efforts to secure every touring HTML Giant contributor. Mike Young, a fixture of the insouciant literary Web site, has written a story collection called *Look! Look! Feathers*, out on kicky independent Word Riot Press. *Publishers Weekly* has praised Young's depiction of "base humanity"; *Nylon* calls his writing "helplessly absurd."
279 Harvard St, Brookline | 7pm | Free | 617.566.6660 or brooklinebooksmith.com

UGLY DUCKLING PRESSE TRANSLATION NIGHT | Brookline Booksmith | January 20 | Earlier this year, *The Russian Version* (Zephyr) by Elena Fanailova, won a translation award for poetry. Stephanie Sandler, its translator, joins fellow highbrow polyglots Barbara Siegel Carlson — who translated Srecko Kosovel from the Slovenian — and Ugly Duckling publisher/noted Russian translator Matvei Yankelevich. |
279 Harvard St, Brookline | 7pm | Free | 617.566.6660 or brooklinebooksmith.com

SETH MNOOKIN | Harvard Book Store | January 24 | *Vanity Fair* writer Seth Mnookin grew up in Newton, went to Harvard, and wrote about his heroin addiction for Slate. His book about the Red Sox, *Feeding the Monster*, became a *New York Times* bestseller. He'll visit the Harvard Book Store to discuss *The Panic Virus* (Simon & Schuster), a work that takes on the causes of autism.
1256 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 7 pm | Free | 617.661.1515 or harvard.com

KAREN ABBOTT | Brookline Booksmith | January 26 | *USA Today* called Karen Abbott's first book, *Sin in the Second City*, "sizzle history." *American Rose: A Nation Laid Bare — The Life and Times of Gypsy Rose Lee*, Abbott's account of the burlesque superstar, follows suit. Gypsy's story, steeped in the glamour of the jazz-age underworld, reproaches today's relatively boring celebrities (with the exception of the excitingly sleazy Nicolas Cage).
279 Harvard St, Brookline | 7pm | Free | 617.566.6660 or brooklinebooksmith.com

V.S. RAMACHANDRAN | Brattle Theatre | February 2 | In its review of V.S. Ramachandran's *The Tell-Tale Brain: Unlocking the Mystery of Human Nature* (William Heinemann), *Booklist* deemed the 21st century the age of neuroscience. If this is true, Ramachandran has done much to make it so. The scientist is so famous that his work has found its way into a plot point of the TV medical drama *House*.
40 Brattle St, Cambridge | 6 pm | $5 | 617.661.1515 or harvard.com

JAIMY GORDON | Brookline Booksmith | February 11 | Before Jaimy Gordon won the National Book Award last year, she wasn't exactly what anyone might call famous; her tiny publisher, MacPherson and Company, didn't send her on a fancy book tour for *Lord of Misrule*. Now they have.
279 Harvard St, Brookline | 7pm | Free | 617.566.6660 or brooklinebooksmith.com

ANDRE DUBUS III | Brattle Theatre | March 1 | Richard Russo won a Pulitzer Prize for his unsparing portrayal of a New England mill town in *Empire Falls*. He adored *Townie* (W.W. Norton), Dubus's memoir about growing up in same: "I've never read a better or more serious meditation on violence," Russo writes. "It's a brutal and, yes, thrilling memoir."
40 Brattle St, Cambridge | 6 pm | $5 | 617.661.1515 or harvard.com

JODI PICOULT | Coolidge Corner Theatre | March 2 | The commercial success of Jodi Picoult's novels has caused her to transcend the label of mere writer; she's now approaching force of nature. Her Boston appearance offers a chance to see her read from her forthcoming novel, *Sing You Home* (Atria), before she reaches apotheosis. Intrepid audience members are encouraged to shout out "Franzen!" during any lulls.
290 Harvard St, Brookline | 6 pm | $5 | 617.566.6660 or brooklinebooksmith.com

JONATHAN COE AND WESLEY STACE | Newtonville Books | March 9 | Jonathan Coe has been writing charming, English social satire for years. His latest novel, *The Terrible Privacy of Maxwell Slim* (Knopf), contends with social networking. Fellow English guy Wesley Stace — known to middle-aged folk-music fans by his stage name, John Wesley Harding — tours the US release of his acclaimed third novel, *Charles Jessold, Considered as a Murderer* (Picador).
296 Walnut St, Newtonville | 7 pm | Free | 617.244.6619 or newtonvillebooks.com

DEB OLIN UNFERTH | Brookline Booksmith | March 19 | It should surprise no one that the extraordinary writer Deb Olin Unferth once ran away to Nicaragua to join the Sandinistas. She has recorded the experience in her forthcoming memoir, *Revolution: The Year I Fell in Love and Went To Join the War* (Henry Holt). In *Vacation*, Unferth's astonishing 2008 debut novel, a man wanders around South America with a brain injury. Now we know why.
279 Harvard St, Brookline | 7pm | Free | 617.566.6660 or brooklinebooksmith.com

WINTER PREVIEW

Local Pop

STACKED BILLS

LOCAL GIGS TO BREAK THE ICE

_BY MICHAEL MAROTTA

TASTY Hard-rock quartet RIBS follow up 2010's *British Brains* with the double-knockout *Locrian Singles*.

If 2010 was the year Boston re-acquainted itself with its local music scene, then 2k11 should be one big party, right? From the outset, it appears the trend of ultra-stacked local bills continues into the new year, with that old, sad-faced Boston gig mantra of "bands playing for bands" finally being cast off. And good thing: with the winter months upon us, most touring acts are out in the sun, leaving the clubs around the Hub wide open for more local takeovers. So, as we wait for Boston-bred heroes to deliver some new tunes — Passion Pit, Buffalo Tom, the Sheila Divine, even the Cars, are expected to drop new albums in '11 — let's see which newer acts are serving up future classics.

MOUNT PERU + MR. SISTER + ME&JOANCOLLINS + THE POINTS NORTH | Middle East | January 6 | Now that the five-day New Year's Eve hangover has subsided, alt-Americana rock act Mount Peru kick off 2k11 with *My Sweetheart the Destroyer*. Featuring former members of Whiskey Giants and the Sun Lee Sunbeam, Mount Peru's rootsy balladry ("Crooked Road Blues") is only surpassed by their smart pop breezes ("Summer Jinx"). Folkstress Amelia Emmet of Mr. Sister is bound to spend the year haunting everyone who slept on 2010's underrated *O Sinister Force*, and if it snows the night of the show, be sure to have the Points North's Boston love letter "We Have Opened Up" playing on your iPod as you walk to Central Square.
472 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $10 | 617.864.3278 or mideastclub.com

ST. HELENA + SARAH RABDAU & SELF-EMPLOYED ASSASSINS + PARLOUR BELLS + LOW STATIC ROMANCE | Rosebud | January 15 | Following 2010's dance-floor hangover from the previous decade's indie rock and electronica, 2k11 will take that first step back into the bar for brunch and more booze. Parlour Bells, draped in noir-pop darkness but coated in a sense of unnerving ease, are the perfect soundtrack for that "what-the-eff-happened-last-night" conversation. Tonight the duo, comprising Blizzard of '78 guitarist Nate Leavitt and Killer Suit Creative Media producer Glenn di Benedetto, release *Heart Beatings*, a purring EP that seduces with its lounge effects (see "Pet Names"). Never outdone, chamber-pop quintet St. Helena release their own debut full-length for one emotionally draining good time.
381 Summer St, Somerville | $10 | 617.667.6015 or rosebuddiner.com

HALLELUJAH THE HILLS + NOWHERE LIGHTS | T.T. The Bear's | January 18 | It was a strange year for Hallelujah the Hills. After the success of 2009's *Colonial Drones*, the art-folk band embarked on a successful summer tour with Titus Andronicus but also took a "pause" from Misra Records and saw a drummer quit mid-set in October at Great Scott. Perhaps Boston's most important band, Ja Hills return with *Album III* (working title, we assume) later in 2k11, but not before showcasing the songs tonight, alongside Dean Wells's Capstan Shafts. The new record is fan-supported: in the fall, 139 backers shelled out almost $6000 to its Kickstarter campaign.
10 Brookline St, Cambridge | $10 | 617.492.0082 or ttthebears.com

MOTHERBOAR + RAZORS IN THE NIGHT + ACARO + LIVVER | Great Scott | January 22 | Benny Grotto usually has his hands full, but probably never as much as earlier this month at the Boston Music Awards, when the head engineer at Allston's Mad Oak Studios and drummer for Motherboar walked out of the Liberty Hotel with not just one, but *two* BMAs (Producer of the Year and Metal/Hardcore Act of the Year). Now Motherboar get to show off their metal with the release of *The Beast Becomes the Servant*, the inaugural release off Boston-based Born of Fire Records. The head-shredding album is available in all formats, including gatefold 12-inch, red-and-black-splatter vinyl. Killer.
1222 Comm Ave, Allston | $10 | 617.566.9014 or greatscottboston.com

HANDS AND KNEES + DOOMSTAR! + THE NEEDY VISIONS | Great Scott | January 27 | Hands and Knees put soul into the holidays with "James Brown Died on Christmas Day," and now the soulful indie-pop band gets *Wholesome*. Their third full-length after one-album stands with Banazan and Midriff Records, the self-released *Wholesome* is earmarked to be one of 2k11's finest, boasting a sound that recalls a more folkish, stripped down, chamber-pop-leaning Hooray for Earth. Fellow band-to-watch Doomstar! and scene psych veterans the Needy Visions stack the bill in sharp-crafted noise's favor.
1222 Comm Ave, Allston | $9 | 617.566.9014 or greatscottboston.com

RIBS + THE CINNAMON FUZZ | T.T. The Bear's | January 28 | Those who appreciated the harder edge RIBS brought to Boston's indie tableau with *British Brains* are in for more treats: the double A-side *Locrian Singles* continues the young quartet's thunderous experimentation with guitar sonics, crafting a pulsating sound that borrows as much from Muse as it does Deftones. The Cinnamon Fuzz bring balance to the bill, countering RIBS' stomp with their glossy, rock-pop disco dust. Boston's promising duo is joined by a New York pair: Bridges & Powerlines and Fan-Tan.
10 Brookline St, Cambridge | $10 | 617.492.0082 or ttthebears.com

WAX FACTOR David Wax Museum have some surprises in store for their February 3 party at Oberon.

MEAN CREEK + TAXPAYER + GIRLFRIENDS + DIRTY DISHES | Brighton Music Hall | January 29 | If the Brighton Music Hall truly wants to be a player not only on the national circuit but also on the local scene, it all starts right here. In a show that could put the former Harpers Ferry space back on the map, four of Boston's aces throw down in the local gig of the winter. Former *Phoenix* cover darlings and rock-and-roll beasts Mean Creek lead the charge with the release of their *Hemophiliac* EP, but any of the others on the bill — the tried-and-tested indie pulse of Taxpayer, the garage ruckus of Girlfriends, or the rock slickness of Dirty Dishes — could equally headline this joint by Independence Day.
158 Brighton Ave, Allston | $12 | 617.254.9743 or brightonmusichall.com

ONE HAPPY ISLAND + ALOUD + THIS BLUE HEAVEN + ORANJULY | Lizard Lounge | January 29 | In an act of rock diplomacy, Boston indie-pop kids One Happy Island spent the past year performing locally with bands from Australia, Sweden, and the UK. Now they put their goodwill to vinyl with a split, 7-inch release with English trio Standard Faire. On the Sheffield Phonographic Corporation-released *Standard Faire on One Happy Island*, both bands cover two tracks each from the other, continuing One Happy Island's role as Boston's underground-pop diplomats. As if that wasn't enough, it's also a homecoming for Aloud, who return to Boston after 51 shows across 28 states in two jam-packed months of coast-to-coast touring. Buy 'em a drink.
1667 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $10 | 617.547.0759 or lizardloungeclub.com

DAVID WAX MUSEUM | Club Oberon | February 3 | An acclaimed performance at the Newport Folk Festival, an aural romance with NPR, and a Boston Music Award for "Americana Artist of the Year" — 2010 was superb for David Wax Museum. Now, the Mexi-folk-country-whatever duo of David Wax and Suz Slezak take over Harvard Square for the *Everything Is Saved* album-release party. Don't front off that $18 cover charge — it gets you not only a copy of the album, but a ticket good for a snack provided by JJ Gonson and Cuisine en Locale. In 2k11, upscale dining might be the new opening act.
2 Arrow St, Cambridge | $18 | 617.496.8004 or cluboberon.com

HONORABLE MENTION, OR WORTH NOTING DESPITE THE LACK OF A CONFIRMED SHOW TO HANG THE HYPE ON | Also in 2k11, be on the lookout for new local releases by Banditas, Bodega Girls, Trabants, Endless Wave, Eksi Ekso, Thousands, and Stereo Telescope, and a repackaged and re-mastered Dom EP from Astralwerks. ⊙

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WINTER PREVIEW

Concerts

CHANGE COULD DO YOU GOOD Break up with a loved one February 7 when Gang of Four play "Damaged Goods" at the Paradise.

TOUR STOPS

TEN GIGS WORTH TRUDGING THROUGH SNOW TO

_BY PHOENIX STAFF

The live music landscape in Boston's winter is a strange scene. Dominated by locals who could carry their gear to the clubs, the must-see touring act is a relative rare breed this time of year. Although the early slate of 2011 has some intriguing options (notably Ted Leo, Dismemberment Plan, Deerhoof), here's where three *Phoenix* musos — music editor Michael Marotta, staff writer Chris Faraone, and contributing writer Daniel Brockman — will be hanging out. You'll find them at the bar, keeping warm.

AZ | Middle East downstairs | January 8 | Between Nature and Cormega, M.O.P., and Boot Camp, Boston in the past few years has enjoyed shows from virtually every hardcore New York legend. Much of that is thanks to promoter Edu Leedz, who, despite also cashing in on frat rap shows, still plays to his own taste and brings much ruckus to the Middle East. So it was only natural that Leedz stepped up to host Brooklyn legend AZ for the *Doe or Die* 15-year anniversary bash. Sugar Hill, baby.

_CF

480 Mass Ave, Cambridge | 9 pm | $20 | 617.864.EAST or mideastclub.com

YOUNG THE GIANT + STATIC JACKS | Great Scott | January 18 | Bowery Boston, which crashed our city in 2010, turning Royale into a legitimate live-music venue, takes its first dip into indie clubland with "Bowery Presents" at Great Scott. Coincidentally, it's with buzz-ready, California-sun-pop indie kids Young the Giant, the first act to play the remodeled Paradise earlier this year (opening for Marina & the Diamonds). Beefing up the bill are young New Jersey garage rockers the Static Jacks, who may sound a lot like the Strokes, but since we're now a full decade beyond *Is This It*, that's no longer a terrible thing.

_MM

1222 Comm Ave, Allston | 9 pm | $10 | 617.566.9014 or greatscottboston.com

CHROMEO + MNDR | House of Blues | February 3 | Having gone from stealing from '80s pop to backing Daryl Hall on an Oates-less tour — thus completing the irony cycle — tight-jamming duo Chromeo are ready to rep their latest long-player, last summer's excellent *Business Casual* (Atlantic). Be prepared, since Lansdowne Street will get drenched in sweat — and arrive early to see club-kid NYC sensation Amanda Warner, a/k/a MNDR, blow the roof off with her walls-meltingly weird take on glow-stick dance pop.

_DB

15 Lansdowne St, Boston | 7 pm | $22.50-$35 | all ages | 888.693.2583 or hob.com/boston

RAIN DOWN SONIC JOY It's time for New York shoegazers Asobi Seksu to blow up, and it starts February 25 at Brighton Music Hall.

BEST COAST + WAVVES + NO JOY | Paradise Rock Club | February 4 | Bethany Cosentino and Nathan Williams were indie rock's undisputed first couple in 2010, so it was inevitable they'd hit the road together. But when Best Coast and Wavves bring their own Cali-brat-pack tour to our less-cutesy side of the country, gone will be those emolicious "I miss youuu" tweets to each other. Also, haters will take great pleasure in the fact that a band called No Joy pull opening duties. Smoke up, kids.

_MM

976 Comm Ave, Boston | 8 pm | $18 | 18+ | 617.562.8800 or thedise.com

ROBYN + DIAMOND RINGS + NATALIA KILLS | House of Blues | February 4 | The American music world slept on the Robyn phenomenon big-time, letting this Swedish teen princess's 2005 transformation into a Kylie-meets-M.I.A. alt-pop sensation go virtually unnoticed. Her '10 behemoth, released as three EPs and containing the monstrous anthem "Dancing on My Own," proved to be harder to ignore, and topped most critics' year-end lists. So you won't be able to go to this victory-lap tour stop and claim that you saw her when or anything — although there is still time to claim bragging rights on Canadian electro-crooner Diamond Rings, whose Bowie-meets–Klaus Nomi stage oddity is at the very least a sight to see.

_DB

15 Lansdowne St, Boston | 7 pm | $22.50-$37 | all ages | 888.693.2583 or hob.com/boston

GANG OF FOUR + HOLLERADO | Paradise Rock Club | February 7 | More like Gang of Two — this venerable post-punk, agitprop unit have shed two founding members since their big reunion tour hit Boston in 2005. Still, there is no excuse to miss the microwave-bashing antics of singer Jon King, nor the brittle, treble-barrier smashing of guitarist Andy Gill. The Gang release their first record of new material in 16 years, *Content* (Yep Rock), in January, so expect to hear some new nettlesome tunes mixed in with class-warfare classics like "To Hell With Poverty" and "At Home He's a Tourist."

_DB

976 Comm Ave, Boston | 8 pm | $33 | 18+ | 617.562.8800 or thedise.com

BATHS + BRAIDS | Brighton Music Hall | February 17 | Precociousness can be an annoyance if displayed in the service of pointless flash; but when a super-with-it 21-year-old can stroll into the LA world of chillwave and drop polyrhythmic beatbeds the way Will Wiesenfeld, a/k/a Baths, does, it's a wonder to behold. The debut Baths album, last July's *Cerulean* (Anticon), is packed with cresting waves, clanging pianos, and tweaked voices, creating a disorienting funhouse of relaxed-yet-jittery energy. Wiesenfeld's dense disorientation is a powerful new psychedelia for the '10s, and even worse/better yet, depending on your jealousy level, the kid can pull it off live.

_DB

158 Brighton Ave, Allston | 8 pm | $10 | 18+ | 617.254.9743 or brightonmusichall.com

GEORGE CLINTON & PARLIAMENT/FUNKADELIC | House of Blues | February 18 | At this juncture, it's important to see George Clinton and his rainbow entourage every time they swing through town. It's only a matter of time until the wheels fall off the P-Funk mothership. In 2010 we lost guitarist Garry "Diaper Man" Shider, and George himself can't possibly tour for much longer. That said, they're still the freshest traveling funk party popping, and a guaranteed good time for college kids and their closet stoner parents alike.

_CF

15 Lansdowne St, Boston | 7 pm | $29-$39 | all ages | 888.693.2583 or hob.com/boston

ASOBI SEKSU + BRAHMS | Brighton Music Hall | February 25 | Long before the shoegaze revival made every band with distortion pedals add the words "psych" and "ambient" to their press bios, New York's Asobi Seksu were busy creating kaleidoscopic sonic rainbows. Now, with fifth studio-album *Fluorescence* (Polyvinyl) set to drop in February, Yuki Chikudate and James Hanna should finally rise from the shadows. Brooklyn's Brahms (no relation to Johannes) create textured electronic patterns and waves wired directly from the mad-man brain of leader Cale Parks. So if you have drugs, save some for this.

_MM

158 Brighton Ave, Allston | 9 pm | $12 | 18+ | 617.254.9743 or brightonmusichall.com

COLD WAR KIDS | House of Blues | March 22 | Cold War Kids are strange. The God-fearing California dudes are one of those weird, post-millennial, indie bands that, when stripped down to each component, sound pretty much like a bunch of other bands that broke out of the guitar revival of five years ago. Yet smashed together by the rock-and-roll overlords, the soulful Cold War Kids create some of the more-memorable throaty, lo-fi rock anthems. Shit, we couldn't get "Hang Me Out To Dry" out of our heads for years until lead *Mine Is Yours* (Downtown) single "Louder Than Ever" dropped a few weeks ago. Put it on your ringtone.

_MM

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Connecticut Convention Center
100 Columbus Boulevard
Hartford CT 06103
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JUNE 25, 2011 2PM
Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel
606 Congress Street
Boston MA 02210
Telecharge.com

JUNE 26, 2011 2PM
Holiday Inn By the Bay
88 Spring Street
Portland ME 04101
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READING NOT GUARANTEED

WINTER PREVIEW
National Pop

WINTER BEATS

JAMES BLAKE, PJ HARVEY, CUT COPY LEAD '11

BY DANIEL BROCKMAN

Okay, so by now your eyes have had a thorough glazing after scanning approximately 10 bazillion Best of 2010 lists and trend pieces. Enough of pundits waxing philosophical on the various merits of hashtag rap and Justin Bieber — that's so last year! Instead, let's cast our gaze at a brand-new slate of winter releases to tide us over as the days slowly, slowly grow longer.

And what better way to be serenaded through a long winter deepfreeze than with some glacial stoner metal? Two of the undisputed titans have new long-players coming up: first, UK drop-tune troglodytes **ELECTRIC WIZARD** grace us with the slightly slaytanic *Black Masses* (Rise Above, January 11), an unrelenting magick-al gantlet of riff truncheons and endless incantations. And just when you think the punishment is over, **EARTH** tag-team your cranium with *Angels of Darkness, Demons of Light I* (Southern Lord, February 7). The first of two planned '11 albums, *Angels I* is a continuation of Dylan Carlson & Co.'s increasing fascination with ways to mix late-'60s folk and blues stylings into their typical drone bluster.

Equally bizarre and morose is the impending debut LP by uncategorizable UK electronic trip-crooner **JAMES BLAKE**, who follows up his trio of buzzed-about 2010 EPs with a self-titled album (Atlas/A&M, February 7) that is a delirious mix of the beguiling and incomprehensible. Fellow Brit Polly Jean Harvey knows about that particular mix, having spent her last few records exploring such uncommercial avenues as churchy piano hymns (2007's *White Chalk*) and retardo garage gunk ('04's gnarly *Uh Huh Her*). But *Let England Shake* (Island, February 15) is the first **PJ HARVEY** album in quite a while to showcase her gift for wilting and jittery melodicism, and if there is any justice, it will win her some notice from those too young to have experienced her mid-'90s heydays.

Cold, dark February will be made way more sunny thanks to a trio of high-energy dance jams. First, the third album by Aussie '80s-revisionists **CUT COPY**, who follow up on the worldwide success of '08's *In Ghost Colours* with *Zonoscope* (Modular, February 8), an album whose muscular bounce is the Power Station to *Colours*' Duran Duran-isms. A few weeks later, the long-delayed debut from M.I.A. protégée **RYE RYE** finally hits: *Go! Pop! Bang!* (Interscope, February 22) sounds like the title implies, with Rye's inimitable flow energetically trampolining over track after track of effervescent B'more bounce. Set to release the same day is **AKON**'s much-delayed follow-up to '08's *Freedom*, the humbly titled *Akonic* (Konvict Muzik/Universal Motown). The album was made with the working title "Stadium Music," and the final album is exactly that, translating the Senegalese rapper's buoyant dancefloor bounce into huge, arena-filling anthems. Together, these three should make our collective trudges through the inevitable slush a tad more spring-heeled.

POLLY OH PJ Harvey will *Let England Shake* in 2011, but fans stateside will be just as moved.

Further down the line, massive white whales flop around in the sea, whether it be the promise of **R.E.M.** returning to their halcyon mid-'80s haziness with their 15th album, *Collapse Into Now* (Warner Bros., March 8), or the as-yet-untitled fourth **STROKES** album (RCA), completed amidst a reportedly fractious recording process. And even farther out on the horizon are promises of new albums in 2011 from U2 (working with producer Danger Mouse, who has so far been tight-lipped on details, sound-wise), **KANYE WEST & JAY-Z** (collaborating on the allegedly stripped-down rap battle *Watch My Throne* (Def Jam), and **LADY GAGA**, whose forthcoming *Born This Way* (Interscope) promises to be her grandest electro-weird statement yet. ◉

RUTH AND CARL J. SHAPIRO FILM PROGRAM
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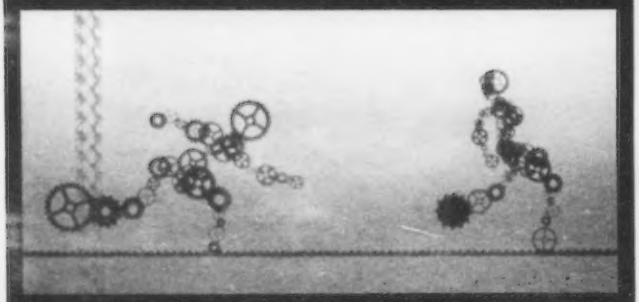

VISIT WWW.MFA.ORG/FILM FOR SCHEDULE AND TICKETS

First Night Short Films
Fri, Dec 31
End 2010 with a laugh! Humorous films screen five times on New Year's Eve day. Films include *Cyber* by Stefan Eling, *Lifeline* by Tomek Ducki ,*Miriam's Broken Picture* by Priit Tender; *Incident at a Bank* by Ruben Ostlund, and *Next Floor* by Denis Villeneuve

Screenings begin at 10:45am, noon, 1:15, 2:30 and 3:45pm

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WINTER PREVIEW
Hip-Hop

STAYING CHILL

INDIE HIP-HOP DOMINATES THE WINTER SCENE

_BY CHRIS FARAONE

There's this funny idea in the music industry — or at least in the hip-hop slice of that glorious enterprise — that it's uncool to release an album in January, February, or March. Artists and label dicks just love talking about how they're "waiting for the second quarter to drop." As if they hold some sort of deep marketing knowledge that consumers don't understand. It's a tradition that should surely die in the digital age, but that for some reason won't fade — like Diddy. With that said, it's all good for indie rappers whose imprints are smart enough to commandeer the wide-open winter soundscape.

While Duck Down artists cut some serious tracks in 2010, owners Dru Ha and Buckshot spent much of the year celebrating the label's 15th anniversary with scores of shows and promising announcements. At the memorable South by Southwest throwdown in March, they introduced Queens laureate **PHAROAHE MONCH** as the newest member of the team, ensuring the dominance of hip-hop's most enduring, increasingly diverse roster. Though Monch's 2007 major-label effort, *Desire*, was commendable, it was nonetheless a bit glossier than Organized Konfusion geeks would have liked. No doubt on the upcoming *W.A.R.* (Duck Down) he won't be reaching for a radio single.

On January 25, Duck Down drops **9TH WONDER AND BUCKSHOT**'s third collaboration, *The Solution*. After a rocky start, these two have found a proper formula, and their hat-trick encore will most likely be the best of the bunch. Chase that with the **PETE ROCK AND SMIF-N-WESSUN** triple-team *Monumental* on February 8 — a project that needs no description whatsoever. And be sure to check for New Zealand rap star **DAVID DALLAS**, who just moved to Brooklyn to record his Duck Down debut. The acquisition stunned some, but that's only because they haven't seen Dallas crush a show yet. The kid's got chops.

Also coming out of New York is *Free Agent* (E1) from **JOELL ORTIZ** on February 22. Like him or not, Ortiz is one of hip-hop's sharpest writers, and maybe now that he's done getting screwed by big labels, he can enjoy a prosperous indie career. On January 11 Ortiz also drops the second **SLAUGHTERHOUSE** spread with Joe Budden, Royce da 5'9", and Crooked I. Even if it's just another sloppily cobbled, battle-rap bonanza, *Slaughterhouse: The EP* (E1) will at least remind heads that even in a class of this caliber, Ortiz steals nearly every track.

It's time to start loving **TALIB KWELI** again. Another major-imprint ex-pat, the rhyming half of Reflection Eternal proved with 2010's *Revolutions Per Minute* that, unlike his sometime-accomplice Mos Def, he's still capable of making songs that fans want to hear. It took a few years and some awful albums for him to trudge through his sappy, slow-rap phase, but Kweli has returned inspired. I've heard some of it already, and on January 25 his self-released *Gutter Rainbows* will show that when he's on, there's no one better.

Finally, there are at least two way-underground discs that are essential listening this season. Grayskul fans should look for an **ONRY OZZBORN** solo joint on January 25 — Fake Four has yet to release anything mediocre, and *Hold On for Dear Life* won't likely be an exception. Onry is a word wiz who rides dark beats through daunting ghettoscapes, so be sure to follow the instructions noted in the title. On that note, also peep *Save Yourself* (Rapmechanics), from Chicago MC **VERBAL KENT** on January 11. In addition to trusty beats and killer cameos, this disc wins on the merit of politicized but non-preachy rhymes from all participating parties. As one of the few noteworthy indie-rap releases dropping this quarter, hopefully it will get some of the attention it deserves.

LOWER DEPTHS Talib Kweli gets back in the game with his self-released *Gutter Rainbows*.

WINTER PREVIEW

Jazz

ON THE RISE Grace Kelly goes toe-to-toe with Phil Woods at Scullers.

SWEET AND SOUR

ALL FLAVORS OF GREAT JAZZ TO CATCH LIVE

BY JON GARELICK

Next week we'll tell you all about the tenor saxophonist Charles Lloyd, who brings his great band with Jason Moran, Reuben Rogers, and Eric Harland to the Regattabar January 21-22. In the meantime, here are 10 other primo jazz acts to catch live this winter.

CLEAR AUDIENCE | Outpost 186 | January 13 | A CD that came out in late 2008 but inexcusably languished in my stacks was *In All Are an Up for It* — the sweet, sweet self-released debut by Boston quartet Clear Audience. This is what you might call, depending on your inclinations, slightly-left-of-the-dial post-bop or just beautiful straight-ahead jazz. Saxophonist Andy Voelker has never sounded more ardent (especially on alto), and he makes a tight team with guitarist Steve Fell, bassist Jef Charland, and drummer Luther Gray — all stalwarts of the local scene. It's also a chance — if you haven't already — to check out the essential living-room-sized space at Outpost 186.
186 1/2 Hampshire St, Cambridge | $10 | 617.876.0860 or outpost186.com

GRACE KELLY & PHIL WOODS | Scullers | January 21 | Grumps like me have been trying to write off Brookline's Kelly (a multiple winner of the *Phoenix*'s Best Music Poll Local Jazz category) ever since she emerged as a 13-year-old prodigy. But the testimony of any number of veterans who have taught her and played with her, the evidence on a handful of impressive albums (including one with Lee Konitz), and her numerous live shows have proven that she's the real deal. Kelly, now 18, will probably be at her best when she lines herself up with alto-sax god Woods — another legend who's taken a shine to her.
DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel, 400 Soldiers Field Road, Boston | 8 pm + 10 pm | $25 | 617.562.4111 or scullersjazz.com

FRANCISCO MELA | Regattabar | January 28 | Mela has defied the expectations of anyone who might pigeonhole him as "Cuban drummer" — a handle that conveys authority on its own. As a leader, he's proven himself with a very personal take on post-bop. And as a sideman, he's been everywhere — most visible recently as part of Joe Lovano's Us Five band. Tonight he brings his Havana Qt — with pianist Elio Villafranca, bassist Luques Curtis, and percussionist Pedro Martinez.
Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St, Cambridge | 7:30 pm | $18 | 617.395.7757 or regattabarjazz.com

WAYNE SHORTER QUARTET | Berklee Performance Center | February 8 | At 77, Wayne Shorter is as influential and important to the ongoing health of jazz as he's ever been. His phenomenal band of pianist Danilo Pérez, bassist John Patitucci, and drummer Brian Blade uses Shorter's extraordinary compositions as a starting point for concert-long improvisations that are a model of what great small-group jazz can be.
136 Mass Ave, Boston | 8 pm | $46-$66 | 800.745.3000 or ticketmaster.com

LEE KONITZ & DAN TEPFER | Regattabar | February 10 | Alto saxophonist Konitz, 83, is one of the living grand masters — a link to the bebop era that he transcended with his determination *not* to sound like Charlie Parker. Today his improvisations are still as "modern" as anything being played. He reprises the 2009 Sunnyside CD *Duos with Lee* with pianist Dan Tepfer, whose own *Five Pedals Deep* was a standout in 2010.
Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St, Cambridge | 7:30 pm [$25] + 10 pm [$22] | 617.395.7757 or regattabarjazz.com

TIERNEY SUTTON | Sanders Theatre | February 11 | Tierney Sutton has emerged from a crowded field of female jazz-standard singers with her own approach — idiosyncratic arrangements of familiar material, and a unique group concept that she's forged over several albums with pianist Christian Jacob. She's also a fluent improviser who — whatever her flights — never loses her grasp of the text. You can hear every word and understand exactly how Sutton means it.
45 Quincy St, Cambridge | 8 pm | $36-$46 | 617.482.6661 or celebrityseries.org

REED'S BASS DRUM | Lily Pad | February 13 | In addition to being a safe haven for local bands to experiment, the Lily Pad (like Outpost 186, its cousin around the corner) also imports its fair share of standout acts from out of town. In the fall, it was Mike Reed's People, Places & Things from Chicago and Toronto trumpeter Lina Allemano. This winter, my bet is on the trio Reed's Bass Drum (no relation to Mike) out of Brooklyn, with baritone saxophonist Jonah Parzen-Johnson, bassist Noah Garabedian, and drummer Aaron Ewing. Parzen-Johnson is a formidable voice on bari, and the band play the kind of post-bop — knotty tunes, strong grooves, lots of freedom — that has kept the avant-garde alive while shifting the mainstream to the left.
1353 Cambridge St, Cambridge | 9 pm | $10 | lily-pad.net

VIJAY IYER TRIO | Regattabar | February 18 | A provocative emerging voice since the mid-'90s, pianist Iyer more or less conquered the world with his 2009 trio album *Historicity* (Act). That disc showed him combining the off-kilter inventions of Andrew Hill and Thelonious Monk with his own trance-like exploratory originals and deep dives into unusual "standards" like Leonard Bernstein's "Somewhere." It doesn't hurt that his three-way conversations with bassist Stephan Crump and drummer Marcus Gilmore are amazing high-wire acts.
Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St, Cambridge | 7:30 pm [$25] + 10 pm [$22] | 617.395.7757 or regattabarjazz.com

NOAH PREMINGER | Scullers | February 23 | If Preminger's tenor described his singing voice instead of his choice of saxophones, opera lovers might characterize his music as "cultured" — there are wisps of influences that flit through his sound and his improvisational patterns, from Warne Marsh to Lester Young and, oh, George Garzone. But the maturity is all his own. Still in his 20s, Preminger celebrates the release of his second album as a leader, *Before the Rain* (Palmetto), with his estimable veteran band of pianist Frank Kimbrough, bassist John Hébert, and drummer Matt Wilson.
DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel, 1 Soldiers Field Road, Boston | February 23 | 8 pm | $20 | 617.562.4111 or scullersjazz.com

BRAD MEHLDAU | Sanders Theatre | March 12 | Last year I advised readers to make haste to Sanders Theatre for a rare Mehldau solo concert. The pianist delivered — with his usual mix of dense textures, yearning lyricism, and obsessive rhythms. This time he returns to Sanders with "and friends," following last year's multi-ensemble double-CD *Highway Rider* (Nonesuch) with a "new work for piano, six winds, and percussion." Players include pianist Timothy Andres, singer Becca Stevens, saxophonists Chris Cheek, Chris Potter, Joshua Redman, Joris Roelofs, Sam Sadigursky, and Greg Tardy, with more artists TBA.
45 Quincy St, Cambridge | 8 pm | $30-$42 | 617.876.4275 or worldmusic.org

NOBODY DOES IT BETTER Wayne Shorter and his quartet come to Berklee in February.

WINTER PREVIEW

Classical

NEO-CLASSIC AND GOTH Michelle De Young sings lead roles in Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex* and Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle* with the BSO.

SING, SING, SING!

OPERA IS THIS WINTER'S WARMER

BY LLOYD SCHWARTZ

For opera lovers, the offerings last fall were at best a little thin. But this winter, it seems, everyone's doin' it. So instead of telling you about James Levine conducting the Birtwistle premiere with violinist Christian Tetzlaff at the BSO (March 3-5 and 8, Symphony Hall) or the Takács Quartet in the Celebrity Series (February 18, Jordan Hall) or the Discovery Ensemble's fascinating Wagner/Schreker/Schumann program (March 17, Sanders Theatre), I'm going to confine my list of recommendations to the numerous exciting opera productions and opera singers that are in store for us.

BSO=BOSTON SYMPHONY OPERAS | Why not start 2011 with what's sure to be one of the most exciting programs of the year? James Levine will be leading the Boston Symphony Orchestra in two of the greatest vocal works of the 20th century: Stravinsky's ritualistic *Oedipus Rex* sung in Latin, with no less than Frank Langella in the pivotal role of the narrator, and Bartók's haunting *Bluebeard's Castle* (January 6-8). Mezzo-soprano Michelle De Young sings the leading female roles in both, tenor Russell Thomas is Oedipus, and dark-voiced Albert Dohmen will be the brooding Bluebeard (as well as both Creon and the Messenger in *Oedipus*). Later in the season, the brilliant and startlingly original young British composer Thomas Adès makes his BSO debut conducting music by Tchaikovsky (an overture), Sibelius (incidental music), and himself (excerpts from an extraordinary opera), all inspired by, or based on, Shakespeare's *The Tempest* (March 25-26).
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave, Boston | $29-$108 | 617.266.1492 or bso.org

SYNGE-ALONG | As part of their ambitious season devoted to the music of Ralph Vaughan Williams, David Hoose and the Cantata Singers will be looking at the composer in the context of British vocal music — with pieces by Elgar, Finzi, and Holst, as well as Vaughan Williams himself — followed by Vaughan Williams's moving setting of Synge's great one-act play about fate and doom among Irish seafarers, *Riders to the Sea*.
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | January 14 | $17-$52 | 617.868.5885 or cantatasingers.org

SOPRANO POWER | The Celebrity Series of Boston is presenting soprano Christine Brewer, whom we're more familiar with as a soloist in major BSO performances, in a solo recital. An ideal combination of power and delicacy, she's singing mostly lieder and art songs, but she's opening with Gluck's great aria from *Alceste*, "Divinités du Styx," calling for the gods of the underworld to release her husband from death. Included in a sequence of nostalgic parlor songs is Idabelle Firestone's "If I Could Tell You," the theme song for *The Voice of Firestone*, a radio (and later, television) show featuring famous opera singers. Pianist Craig Rutenberg accompanies.
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | January 30 | $50-$70 | 617.482.2595 or celebrityseries.org

OUT OF THE FRYING PAN | The latest production in Boston Lyric Opera's Opera Annex series is its new production of Viktor Ullmann's *Emperor of Atlantis*, the dark yet comic piece he composed at Terezín in 1943 (he died soon afterward at Auschwitz). Stephen Lipsitt conducts at Calderwood Pavilion. BLO returns to the Shubert Theatre with Handel's satirical and ravishing *Agrippina* (it could have been called "Naughty Nero"), in a production borrowed from Glimmerglass and New York City Opera. Gary Thor Wedow makes his BLO conducting debut, and the stars are Caroline Worra as one of antiquity's monster mothers, the Met's brilliant and adorable coloratura Kathleen Kim as Poppea, and counter-tenor David Trudgen as the young Nero.
Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St, Boston [*Emperor of Atlantis*] | February 1-2, 4-6 | $33-$76 | Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St, Boston [*Agrippina*] | March 11, 13, 16, 18, 20, 22 | $34-$195 | 617.542.4912 or blo.org

HAIL AND FAREWELL | Teatro Lirico d'Europa, the Bulgarian touring opera company that for a dozen years has provided us with good old-fashioned opera at low prices, seems to have been kicked out of the Cutler Majestic and is taking its Boston curtain calls with two of its best productions: Donizetti's coloratura melodrama based on an historical novel by Sir Walter Scott, with the famous sextet and Mad Scene, *Lucia di Lammermoor* (February 4-6) and Verdi's heartbreaking and heartbreakingly tuneful *La traviata* (March 4-6).
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St, Boston | $30-$85 | 617.824.8000 or jennykellyproductions.com

MET IN HD One of our local heroes, baritone James Maddalena, who created the title role in John Adams's *Nixon in China*, which secured his international career, re-creates it for the opera's Metropolitan Opera premiere. Peter Sellars, who inspired the opera and staged the original production, directs. If you can't get to the Met, and can still get a ticket, it will be telecast live, in HD, in movie theaters around the world, including Boston's Fenway and suburban theaters.
Regal Fenway 13 and suburbs | February 4 | $10-$20 | 212.362.6000 or metoperafamily.org

DRIVEN | The name's *Cardillac* (not Cadillac!) — a powerful dramatic opera by Hindemith about a goldsmith who murders his clients so he can keep the beautiful objects he has created. It isn't done nearly as often as it should be. Opera Boston is presenting its Boston premiere, with the profound baritone Sanford Sylvan ideally cast in the title role, and tenor Matthew Anderson, mezzo-soprano Janna Baty, and baritone David Kravitz supporting. Gil Rose conducts.
Cutler Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St, Boston | February 25, 27; March 1 | $29-$171 | 617.451.3388 or operaboston.com

ARE LOOKS EVERYTHING? | The white-maned Russian baritone with the hard-to-pronounce name, Dmitri Hvorostovsky — one of the best-looking male singers alive, with an equally gorgeous voice — returns for a recital under the auspices of the Celebrity Series of Boston. You can bet Boston's Russian community will turn out in full force.
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave, Boston | February 27 | $35-$83 | 617.482.2595 or celebrityseries.org

NOT ALL TENORS ARE ROBOTS | The ART goes operatic with the American premiere of an exciting new opera with a score by MIT Media Lab's Tod Machover, with both acoustic instruments and electronics, and a libretto by poet Robert Pinsky, staged by ART director Diane Paulus. *Death and the Powers* is the story of a gazillionaire facing death and his absorption into an electronic "System" in which he can stay alive forever. Baritone James Maddalena lends all his considerable powers to the role of Simon Powers.
Cutler Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St, Boston | March 18, 20, 22, 24-25 | $75-$100 | 617.495.2668 or americanrepertorytheater.org

ALMOST AN OPERA Metropolitan Opera tenor Matthew Polenzani, already a Boston favorite for his performances with the BSO, makes his Boston recital debut in the Celebrity Series, with pianist Julius Drake. He's one of the suavest young singers around, and he's singing Schubert's moving song cycle *Die schöne Müllerin* ("The beautiful miller maid") — practically a one-person opera. Could the audience persuade him to sing a Mozart aria for an encore?
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St, Boston | March 24 | $37-$50 | 617.482.2595 or celebrityseries.org

SOLO FLIGHT Tenor Matthew Polenzani sings Schubert — and maybe an aria encore? — at Jordan Hall.

Listings

CLUBS

THURSDAY 30

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ALCHEMY BISTRO | Gloucester | 7:30 pm | "Village Night" with Dan King
ALL ASIA CAFÉ | Cambridge | 6 pm | Closer Than We Appear + Monikers + Red Sky Mary
ATWOOD'S TAVERN | Cambridge | 10 pm | Dennis Brennan
BEEHIVE | Boston | 10 pm | Rajdulari
BLOC 11 CAFÉ | Somerville | 7 pm | "Open Mic" with Kristen Ford
BLUE WAVE | Boston | "Mambo Thursdays"
BRITISH BEER COMPANY | Framingham | Element 78
BURREN | Somerville | "Scattershot 80's Night"
CAFÉ LUNA | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Brazilian Thursdays"
CANTAB LOUNGE DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | 8 pm | Jimmy Talbot + Tsunami of Sound + Crazy Young Buffalos + Geezer
CANTAB LOUNGE UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | Chicken Slacks
CHIANTI CAFÉ | Beverly | 9 pm | Turk, Rowen, Mele, & Silverstein
CHURCH | Boston | 9 pm | Short Summers + Action Verbs
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 7 pm | Ellis Paul
COLONIAL INN | Concord | 8 pm | John Fitzsimmons & Friends
CONGA'S | Cambridge | "Regalia Nights" with DJ Sisko
CORNERSTONES RESTAURANT | Leominster | 7:30 pm | 25th Hour
DADDY'S BEACH CLUB | Hull | 9 pm | "DJ Crazy Skip's Dance Party"
DARRYL'S CORNER BAR & KITCHEN | Boston | Pat Loomis Quartet
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | Salem | 9:30 pm | Mary Beth Maes
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 8 pm | "SUBduction Pre-New Year's Eve Bash"
FIRE & ICE | Cambridge | 10:30 pm | "Brazilian Dance Night"
GOOD LIFE | Boston | 9:30 pm | "A Lil Louder" with Jus Cuz & Almighty PFP + Bounty Killah + George Kranz + Crystal Waters
HOUSE OF BLUES | Boston | 8 pm | moe. + Rag
IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL | Northampton | 7 + 10 pm | Enter the Haggis
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | 9 pm | "Krucial Reggae New Year's Party" with Dub Station Band
MIDDLE EAST CORNER | Cambridge | Chelsea City Council
MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | Caspian + Constants + Irepress + Moving Mountains
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | Indobox + Grey Area
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Make It New"
MIDWAY CAFÉ | Jamaica Plain | 10 pm | "Women's Dance Night" with DJ Summer's Eve
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | 9 pm | Summer of Aden + Ethan Robbins & Cold Chocolate + Bridgette Isabella Semler
MOJITOS | Boston | "El Antro" with DJ JM
PALLADIUM | Worcester | 6:30 pm | End Of The World + Astronomer + Sharpshooter + Lifeloss + Malachi + Swamps
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | Boston | 9 pm | Soulive + Nigel Hall
P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Ruin/Renewal + Adrian Emberley + Derek Rando
PEARL STREET NIGHTCLUB | Northampton | 7 pm | Badfish (Sublime tribute) + Scotty Don't + Wyld Stallyns + WTFunk + Wolfman Conspiracy
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Elements" with Crook & Lenore
PLOUGH & STARS | Cambridge | 10:30 pm | Jeddo Stars + Jade Sylvan
RED ROCK BISTRO & BAR | Swampscott | 8:30 pm | Brian Maes Band
RIVER GODS | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Soul Party" with DJ Quilty
RUMOR | Boston | 10 pm | "Signature Thursdays" with DJ Roger + DJ JC
RYLES | Cambridge | 8:30 pm | Mark Zaleski
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 6 pm | Patsy Hamel Band | 9 pm | Mayberry
SAMBA BAR & GRILL | Somerville | 9 pm | Seresta Ao Vivo
SANCTUARY | Boston | 10 pm | "Latin Thursdays" with DJ Rip Hernandez + DJ Italian Ice + DJ Willie D
SHOWCASE LIVE | Foxborough | 8 pm | The Roots
6B LOUNGE | Boston | "Sin City Thursdays" with DJ Switch It Up
THINK TANK | Cambridge | "Unprotected Decks"
TINKER'S SON | Norwell | 9 pm | Justin Beech
TOAD | Cambridge | 7 pm | Melvern Taylor & his Fabulous Meltones | 10 pm | Sam Reid & the Riot Act
TOMMY DOYLE'S AT HARVARD | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Klyce Family Band | midnight | DJ Special K
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | 8:30 pm | Bob Nieske Group + Phil Grenadier
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | 8:30 pm | "Dry Run to New Year's Eve Party" with Cass McCombs + Drew O'Doherty
UNDERBAR | Boston | 10 pm | "Pre New Year's Eve Party" with Richie Santana
WOLF DEN AT MOHEGAN SUN | Uncasville | 8 pm | Halestorm
WONDER BAR | Allston | 10 pm | "Trend Thursdays" with DJ Breeazy
ZUZU | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Cult Jam" with DJ Paul Foley

FRIDAY 31

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ALL ASIA CAFÉ | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Uhuru Afrika New Year's Eve Fete"
ATWOOD'S TAVERN | Cambridge | 10 pm | "New Year's Eve with Tim Gearan Band"
BEEHIVE | Boston | 9 pm | "Soul Resolution! - The Beehive New Year's Eve 2011" with Akashik Record
BRITISH BEER COMPANY | Framingham | "New Year's Eve with Big Party Orchestra"
BULL RUN | Shirley | 6 pm | "New Year's Eve with Bellevue Cadillac"
BURREN | Somerville | "Scattershot New Year's Eve"
C-NOTE | Hull | "New Year's Eve with Mike & Mutha Funk Band"
CANTAB LOUNGE DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Club Bohemia New Year's Eve Party" with Big Wipeouts + Go-Go Girls + Killer Surf Videos + Country Doctors
CHIANTI CAFÉ | Beverly | 9 pm | "Scaredy Cats New Year's Eve Party"
CHURCH | Boston | 8 pm | "Royal & Rockin' New Year's Eve" with Upper Crust + Lights Out + Apple Betty
CLUB LIDO | Revere | 10 pm | "New Years Eve 2011: 4th annual Red Carpet Ball" with JR Rodigan + Riddim Rider + DJ Dexx
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 7 pm | "Ellis Paul's 15th Annual New Year's Show" with Flynn
COLONIAL INN | Concord | 9 pm | "New Year's Eve Celebration" with Kenny Selcer Band
DADDY'S BEACH CLUB | Hull | 9 pm | "1st Annual New Year's Party" with Dons
DANTE'S OF MARLBOROUGH AT FIREFLY'S | Marlborough | 9:30 pm | "The Fools New Year's Eve Show"
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 8 pm | "NYE with DJ Leah V"
ESTATE | Boston | 10 pm | "Boston's Best NYE 2011" with DJ Costa
FUSION 5 | Foxborough | 9 pm | "New Year's Eve Party" with Element 78
GOOD LIFE | Boston | 9:30 pm | "Fresh Produce vs. Middle School Dance NYE Bash" with DJ Tommee + DJ Knife + Death Star + Damien Paul + Mikey Lee
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | 9 pm | "The pi'11 New Year's Eve Party" with Freezepop + DJ Michael V + DJ Ken
HARD ROCK CAFÉ | Boston | 10 pm | "Captured- the Journey New Year's Eve Show"
HARP | Boston | 9 pm | "New Year's Eve at the Harp" with Radio Riot
HOUSE OF BLUES | Boston | 8 pm | moe. + Dirty Dozen Brass Band
IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL | Northampton | 7 + 10 pm | Enter the Haggis
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | 9:30 pm | "Booty New Year's Eve Spectacular!" with Bootie Vortex
LANSDOWNE PUB | Boston | 8 pm | "New Year's Eve at the Lansdowne Pub" with DJ Cutz + Bearfight
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Dwight & Nicole's New Year's Eve"
LUCKY DOG MUSIC HALL | Worcester | 8 pm | "New Year's Eve Extravaganza" with Spitshine + Crumb
LUPO'S HEARTBREAK HOTEL | Providence | 9:30 pm | "HOT 106 New Year's Eve Party" with DJ Half Pint
MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | "A Rock n' Roll Heaven New Year's Bash" with Waltham + Letterday + Organ Beats + Cradle to the Grave
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 8 pm | "New Year's Eve Party with Indobox + Driving in Croatia"
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "New Year's Eve at Middlesex" with DJ Kon
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | 10 pm | "New Year's Eve Bash" with DJ Bruno + KC Hallett + DJ Cruzz + Lee Wilson Movement
OLIVER'S | Boston | 8 pm | "New Year's Eve with Aerochix"
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | Boston | 9 pm | Soulive + Nigel Hall
P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | Jason Anderson + Strand of Oaks
PEARL STREET NIGHTCLUB | Northampton | 9 pm | "New Year's Eve Show" with Rubblebucket + Alchemystics + Bella's Bartok
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 9 pm | "New Year's Eve Gaga Gala"
PLOUGH & STARS | Cambridge | 10:30 pm | "New Year's Eve with Andrea Gillis Band"
PRECINCT | Somerville | 9 pm | Hearnowlive's "Rockin' New Year's Eve!" with Love in Stockholm
QUINCY BEACHCOMBER | Quincy | "An Irish New Year's Eve Party" with Inchicore
RAMROD | Boston | 10 pm | "!Blackout!: New Year's Eve" with DJ Danae Jacovidis
RED ROCK BISTRO & BAR | Swampscott | 9 pm | "Johnny Ray Band New Year's Eve"
RHUMB LINE | Gloucester | 9 pm | "Auld Lang Bandit Kings/Boyfriends New Year's Eve"
RISE | Boston | 1 am | "New Year's Eve at Rise" with Maher Daniel + Nightriders
ROYALE | Boston | 9 pm | "Big Top NYE 2011" with DJ Breeazy + DJ Erik Velez
RUMOR | Boston | 9 pm | "Rumor New Year's Eve Party" with DJ Hectik + DJ Case + Coonies
RYLES | Cambridge | 8 pm | "New Years Eve with Joe Bargar & The Soul Providers"
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 6 pm | "Rockin' Sally's New Year's Eve" with Les Sampou + Sarcasmatics
SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB | Boston | 8 pm | "Pieces of a Dream New Year's Eve Show"
SHOWCASE LIVE | Foxborough | 6 pm | "New Year's at Showcase Live" with Ryan Montbleau Band + Johnny A
SPLASH ULTRA LOUNGE & BURGER BAR | Boston | 9 pm | "The Ball 2011" with DJ Dirty Dek
THINK TANK | Cambridge | 8 pm | "GALACTICA: A Together NYE" with DJ Nathanael Bluhm + Volvox + DJ Jezus + DJ Melee
TINKER'S SON | Norwell | 9 pm | "New Year's Eve with Smoking Jackets"
TOAD | Cambridge | 10 pm | "All-Star New Year's Eve" with Eric Royer + Tim Gearan + Christian McNeill + Dennis Brennan + Chris Anzalone + Steve Cuoco
TOMMY DOYLE'S AT HARVARD | Cambridge | 10 pm | "New Year's Eve Bash" with DJ Special K
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Heroes New Year's Bash" with DJ Chris Ewen
UNDERBAR | Boston | 10 pm | "New Year's Eve 2011 at Underbar" with DJ Deka + Greg Schneider
VENU | Boston | 9 pm | "NYE at Venu" with DJ Stix + DJ JR Vega
WOLF DEN AT MOHEGAN SUN | Uncasville | 8 pm | "Boogie Wonder Band New Year's Show"
WONDER BAR | Allston | 10 pm | "NYE 2011 Winter Wonderland" with DJ Turbz
ZUZU | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Solid! New Years Eve Celebration" with Flavorheard

SATURDAY 1

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ATWOOD'S TAVERN | Cambridge | 10 pm | Nephrok Allstars
CANTAB LOUNGE UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | Fatback Band & Couper Brothers
CHIANTI CAFÉ | Beverly | 9 pm | "Henley Douglas Jr. Start the New Year Off Right Party"
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | MC Mr. Napkins
COLONIAL INN | Concord | 8 pm | Sweet Willie D & the Workingman's Band
COMMON GROUND | Allston | 10 pm | "Videodrome Discothèque" with DJ Craig MacNeil
DADDY'S BEACH CLUB | Hull | 9 pm | DJ Skip
DISTRICT | Boston | 10 pm | "Status Saturdays" with DJ Matty D
ESTATE | Boston | 10 pm | "VIP Access" with Kat Graham
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | 9 pm | Freezepop + New Collisions + Plushgun + Andre Obin
HARP | Boston | 9 pm | Radio Riot
IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL | Northampton | 7 pm | Livingston Taylor + Chris O'Brien
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | 8 pm | DJ Razz
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | Girls, Guns & Glory + Sweet & Lowdown
MIDDLE EAST CORNER | Cambridge | Po Boyz Hammond B3 Organ Trio

Continued on p 38

THIRD EYE BLIND rocks the Wilbur Theatre on New Year's Eve.

THE WESTERN FRONT
343 Western Ave, Cambridge
Reggae, Latin & Jazz
THURSDAY 12/30
LIVE BLUES BANDS
FRIDAY 12/31
REGGAE NEW YEARS BASH
CALL 4 INFO
FOR INFO 617-492-7772
www.westernfront.com

Johnny D's UPTOWN
RESTAURANT & MUSIC CLUB
40 Years Of Great Music
THURSDAY, DEC 30
REGGAE NEW YEAR'S W/
DUB STATION
W/ SPECIAL GUESTS
FRIDAY, DEC 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
BOOTY VORTEX
DISCO / FUNK
SATURDAY, JAN 1
NEW YEAR'S DAY
JAZZ BRUNCH
9:30 AM - 3:30 PM
DJ RAZZ 8PM - 12 AM
NO COVER
KITCHEN OPEN
'TIL MIDNIGHT
SUNDAY, JAN 2
JAZZ BRUNCH
8:30AM - 2:30PM
BAR OPEN UNTIL 5 PM
CLOSED FOR STAFF PARTY
MONDAY, JAN 3
$1 HOT DOGS 6-10 PM
(21+) TEAM TRIVIA
8:30 PM
TUESDAY, JAN 4
SKA / POP LEGENDS
THE ENGLISH BEAT
WEDNESDAY, JAN 5
BLUES
ANN & MIMI RABSON
FRIDAY, JAN 7
R&B / FUNK
THE CHICKEN SLACKS
SATURDAY, JAN 8
BLUES GUITAR
LUTHER "GUITAR JUNIOR" JOHNSON
TUESDAY, JAN 11
GRAMMY NOMINATED BLUEGRASS
THE STEEL DRIVERS
ROUNDER RECORDS
RECORDING ARTIST
COMING SOON:
1/11- STEEL DRIVERS
1/12- CARMEN SALZA
1/13- KRUCIAL REGGAE
1/14- VELVETEEN PLAYBOYS
1/15- GREAT UNKNOWNS
1/18- CLAUDIA SCHMIDT
1/22- BAND THAT TIME FORGOT
1/29(7PM)GIRL HOWDY
(10PM)JACKSON WETHERBEE
2/4- ROSS LIVERMORE
2/5- MILO Z
WWW.JOHNNYDS.COM
SERVING DINNER TUES-SAT
JAZZ BRUNCH SAT & SUN
17 HOLLAND ST. DAVIS SQ. SOMERVILLE
ACROSS FROM DAVIS RED LINE
INFO: 617-776-2004
CONCERT LINE: 617-776-9867

Listings

Continued from p 37

MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | 8 pm | Dada + Energy
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 8 pm | "New Year's Day National Hangover Day Party!" with Joshua Tree
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | 9:30 pm | "Mango's Latin Dance Night" with Lee Wilson
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | 9 pm | Now Denial + Knifey Spoony
OLIVER'S | Boston | 10 pm | "The Hot Corner" with DJ Carney Lansford
OM RESTAURANT & LOUNGE | Cambridge | 11 pm | DJ Golden Touch + Doc Klaw
PLOUGH & STARS | Cambridge | 10:30 pm | Mente
RAMROD | Boston | 10 pm | "Leather Night Out" with DJ Duo Freespace
RED ROCK BISTRO & BAR | Swampscott | 9 pm | Lois Lane & the Daily Planets
RISE | Boston | 1 am | "New Year's Day/Night at Rise" with Craig Mitchell + Ryan Ruel
SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB | Boston | 8 pm | Pieces of a Dream
SPLASH ULTRA LOUNGE & BURGER BAR | Boston | 10 pm | "Swank Saturdays" with DJ Dirty Dek
SUNSET CAFÉ | Cambridge | 7 pm | Evelyn Rosenthal & Steve Kirby Brazilian Duo
THINK TANK | Cambridge | KC Hallet
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | 9 pm | Bob Nieske Group + Maggie Galloway + Phil Grenadier
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Bloody Hangover Heroes" with DJ Chris Ewen
UNDERBAR | Boston | 10 pm | "Prive Saturdays" with DJ Franklin + DJ Leo + DJ Paul Yiotis
VENU | Boston | 10 pm | "Entourage Saturdays" with DJ Hectik
WALNUT STREET COFFEE CAFÉ | Lynn | 8:30 pm | Anthony Migliaccio & The TBD Jamboree
WOLF DEN AT MOHEGAN SUN | Uncasville | 8 pm | Village People
WONDER BAR | Allston | 10 pm | DJ Beyonder + DJ Turbz
ZUZU | Cambridge | 11 pm | "Soul-le-luh-jah"

SUNDAY 2

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

CANTAB LOUNGE UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Candy's Blues, Jazz & Rock Jam"
CAPRICE LOUNGE | Boston | 10:30 pm | "Latin Sundays"
CHURCH | Boston | 8 pm | Serrana
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | Bill Morrissey
COLONIAL INN | Concord | 7 pm | "Acoustic Open Mic" with Ken Selcer
FAT CACTUS | Lynnfield | 10:30 am | Preacher Jack
IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL | Northampton | 7 pm | Livingston Taylor + Chris O'Brien
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Jeff Robinson Trio
LUCKY DOG MUSIC HALL | Worcester | 9 pm | Dr. Gonzo's Road Kill Orchestra
MATT MURPHY'S PUB | Brookline | 10 pm | "Live and Direct Reggae" with Zion Dub + Akira + Mang Dub + Bud E. Green
MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | 8 pm | Styles P + Lou Armstrong + Termanology + Steis + 34DaStripes + DC Fam + Phresh M.A.T.A. Music + KnowBodies
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Rebound"
PLOUGH & STARS | Cambridge | 5 pm | Frank Drake & Aristocrats | 9 pm | Frank Morey Band
THE POINT | Boston | Danny Tucker & Vibe Tribe
RAMROD | Boston | 10 pm | "Club Classics" with DJ Ace Boogie
RED ROCK BISTRO & BAR | Swampscott | noon | Sharon DiFronzo + Joey Vellucci
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 8 pm | Amber Casares
SAMBA BAR & GRILL | Somerville | 8 pm | Jatir & Banda Raizes
THINK TANK | Cambridge | DJ Lonnie Amado
TINKER'S SON | Norwell | 11 am | "Traditional Irish Session" with Skip Toomey | 4 pm | "Open Mic" with Bill Downes | 8 pm | "Open Mic" with Sean Gilmartin
TOMMY DOYLE'S AT HARVARD | Cambridge | 8 pm | Receita de Samba
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | noon | Lee Childs Group | 8 pm | Marshall Wood Trio
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | 9 pm | Joanie Pimental + Lisa Parade Trio + Justin Joyce
UNDERBAR | Boston | 10 pm | "Hot Mess Sundays" with Richie Ladue
VENU | Boston | 10 pm | "Venu Sundays" with DJ Paul Michael
WALNUT STREET COFFEE CAFÉ | Lynn | 6 pm | "Don White's Sunday Open Mic" with Mike Cassetta
WOLF DEN AT MOHEGAN SUN | Uncasville | 7 pm | Main Street Cruisers

MONDAY 3

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

CANTAB LOUNGE UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Geoff Bartley's Folk & Acoustic Open Mic" | 9:30 pm | Ken Bonfield
CHARLIE'S KITCHEN | Cambridge | 9 pm | Life & Limb + You Blew It + Night Fruit
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 7 pm | "Elvis Presley Tribute Night"
DADDY'S BEACH CLUB | Hull | 8 pm | "Open Mic Night"
ENORMOUS ROOM | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Beat Research"
GOODBAR | Boston | 8 pm | "Open Mic" with Thom Murphy
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | 9 pm | Drummers + Get Laid + IDNOCLIP + Weekend Dads
LILY PAD | Cambridge | 7 pm | "Improvised Trombone Concert" with Christian Pincock + Tom Pisek + Doug LaRosa
LIZARD LOUNGE | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Open Mic" with Tom Bianchi
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Makka Mondays"
RAMROD | Boston | 10 pm | "The Attic" with DJ Kuro
RHUMB LINE | Gloucester | 9:30 pm | "Open Jam" with Joe Cardoza + Dennis Monagle + Dan King
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | 8 pm | Marty Ballou Trio
WOLF DEN AT MOHEGAN SUN | Uncasville | noon | Main Street Cruisers
WONDER BAR | Allston | 10 pm | DJ Hevan

TUESDAY 4

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

BURREN | Somerville | 6:30 pm | "Open Mic" with Hugh McGowan
CAFÉ 47 | Boston | 7:30 pm | "Live Jazz" with Sagit Zilberman
CANTAB LOUNGE DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Bluegrass Pickin' Party"
CANTAB LOUNGE UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Pickin' Party" | 8:30 pm | Sam Stambler | 10 pm | Alan Kaufman & Joint Chiefs
CHURCH | Boston | 9 pm | Big Drift + Sam Reid & the Riot Act + Loud Clappers
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | George Cole Quintet
IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL | Northampton | 7 pm | Edwin McCain Trio + Mieka Pauley | 10 pm | "Latin Night" with DJ Joey Acevedo
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | 8 pm | English Beat
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Hip Hop 101" with L.E.G. + Dub F
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | 9 pm | Jim Healey + Zip-Tie Handcuffs + Cask Mouse + Keith Pierce + Beta Bursts
RAMROD | Boston | 10 pm | "Vice" with DJ Sun One
RUMOR | Boston | 10 pm | "Evolution Tuesdays" with DJ Hectik
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 9 pm | Levy-Stubbs-Rivelli Trio
SAMBA BAR & GRILL | Somerville | Som De Barzinho
TIKI HIDEAWAY AT HOWARD JOHNSON | Boston | 7 pm | "Fenway Jazz Jam" with David Ehle Guitar Trio
TOMMY DOYLE'S AT HARVARD | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Whiskey Boys + Matt Scott
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | 8:30 pm | Bob Nieske Trio
UNDERBAR | Boston | 10 pm | "Cream" with Brek.One + DJ BK
VENU | Boston | 10 pm | "Venu Tuesdays" with DJ Roger M + DJ Hectik
WOLF DEN AT MOHEGAN SUN | Uncasville | 7 pm | Farmer's Daughter

WEDNESDAY 5

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ALL ASIA CAFÉ | Cambridge | 7-10 pm | "PUZL Presents: Wanted" with the Charlie River Band + DJ Sprino [RADIx] + DJ Milo + Japanese Monster
ATWOOD'S TAVERN | Cambridge | 10 pm | Elastic Waste Band
CANTAB LOUNGE UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | "Candy's Blues, Jazz & Rock Jam"
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | Ben Krakauer + Tristan & Tashina Clarridge
COLONIAL INN | Concord | 8 pm | Jimmy Mazzy & Last Minute Men
CONGA'S | Cambridge | 8 pm | Receita de Samba
DISTRICT | Boston | 10 pm | "Classic Wednesdays" with DJ Tanno

CLUB DIRECTORY

ALCHEMY BISTRO | 978.281.3997 | 3 Duncan St, Gloucester
ALL ASIA CAFÉ | 617.497.1544 | 334 Mass Ave, Cambridge
ATWOOD'S TAVERN | 617.864.2792 | 877 Cambridge St, Cambridge
BEEHIVE | 617.423.0069 | 541 Tremont St, Boston
BLOC 11 CAFÉ | 617.623.0000 | 11 Bow St, Somerville
BLUE WAVE | 617.790.0720 | 343 Congress St, Boston
BRITISH BEER COMPANY | 508.879.1776 | 120 Worcester Rd, Framingham
BULL RUN | 978.425.4311 | Rte 2A, Shirley
BURREN | 617.776.6896 | 247 Elm St, Somerville
C-NOTE | 781.925.4300 | 159 Nantasket Ave, Hull
CAFÉ 47 | 617.536.1577 | 47 Mass Ave, Boston
CANTAB LOUNGE | 617.354.2685 | 738 Mass Ave, Cambridge
CAPRICE LOUNGE | 617.292.0080 | 275 Tremont St, Boston
CHARLIE'S KITCHEN | 617.492.9646 | 10 Eliot St, Cambridge
CHIANTI CAFÉ | 978.921.2233 | 285 Cabot St, Beverly
CHURCH | 617.236.7600 | 69 Kilmarnock St, Boston
CLUB LIDO | 781.289.3080 | 1290 North Shore Rd, Revere
CLUB PASSIM | 617.492.7679 | 47 Palmer St, Cambridge
COLONIAL INN | 978.369.9200 | 48 Monument Square, Concord
COMEDY STUDIO | 617.661.6507 | 1236 Mass Ave, Cambridge
COMIX AT FOXWOODS | 860.312.6649 | 350 Trolley Line Blvd, Mashantucket, CT
COMMON GROUND | 617.783.2071 | 85 Harvard Ave, Allston
CONGA'S | 617.868.8882 | 1 Eliot St, Cambridge
CORNERSTONE'S RESTAURANT | 978.537.1991 | 616 Central St, Leominster
DADDY'S BEACH CLUB | 781.925.3600 | 280 Nantasket Ave, Hull
DANTE'S OF MARLBOROUGH AT FIREFLY'S | 508.357.8883 | 350 East Main St, Marlborough
DARRYL'S CORNER BAR & KITCHEN | 617.536.1100 | 604 Columbus Ave, Boston
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S | 617.482.0110 | 124 Boylston St, Boston
DISTRICT | 617.426.0180 | 180 Lincoln St, Boston
DODGE STREET BAR & GRILL | 978.745.0139 | 7 Dodge St, Salem
ENORMOUS ROOM | 617.491.5599 | 567 Mass Ave, Cambridge
ESTATE | 617.351.7000 | 1 Boylston Pl, Boston
FAT CACTUS | 781.592.0077 | 215 Broadway, Lynnfield
FIRE & ICE | 617.547.9007 | 50 Church St, Cambridge
FUSION | 508.543.0599 | 105 Washington St, Foxborough
GIGGLES COMEDY CLUB | 781.233.9950 | at Prince Restaurant, 517 Broadway, Saugus
GOOD LIFE | 617.451.2622 | 28 Kingston St, Boston
GOODBAR | 617.723.7050 | 183 State St, Boston
GREAT SCOTT | 617.566.9014 | 1222 Comm Ave, Allston
HARD ROCK CAFÉ | 617.424.7625 | 22-24 Clinton St, Boston
HARP | 617.742.1010 | 85 Causeway St, Boston
HOUSE OF BLUES | 888.693.2583 | 36 Lansdowne St, Boston
IMPROV ASYLUM | 617.263.6887 | 216 Hanover St, Boston
IMPROVBOSTON | 617.576.1253 | 40 Prospect St, Cambridge
IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL | 413.586.8686 | 20 Center St, Northampton
JOHNNY D'S | 617.776.2004 | 17 Holland St, Somerville
LANSDOWNE PUB | 617.266.1222 | 9 Lansdowne St, Boston
LATITUDE 43 | 978.281.0223 | 25 Rogers St, Gloucester
LILY PAD | 617.497.0823 | 1353 Cambridge St, Cambridge
LIZARD LOUNGE | 617.547.0759 | 1667 Mass Ave, Cambridge
LUCKY DOG MUSIC HALL | 508.363.1888 | 89 Green St, Worcester
LUPO'S HEARTBREAK HOTEL | 401.331.LUPO | 79 Washington St, Providence, RI
MATT MURPHY'S PUB | 617.232.0188 | 14 Harvard St, Brookline
MIDDLE EAST | 617.864.EAST | 472-480 Mass Ave, Cambridge
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | 617.868.MSEX | 315 Mass Ave, Cambridge
MIDWAY CAFÉ | 617.524.9038 | 3496 Washington St, Jamaica Plain
MILKY WAY | 617.524.3740 | at the Brewery, 284 Armory St, Jamaica Plain
MOJITOS | 617.988.8123 | 48 Winter St, Boston
MOTTLEY'S COMEDY CLUB | 877.61.LAUGH | 61 Chatham St, Faneuil Hall, Boston
NICK'S COMEDY STOP | 617.482.0930 | 100 Warrenton St, Boston
O'BRIEN'S | 617.782.6245 | 3 Harvard Ave, Allston
OLIVER'S | 617.536.4840 | 62 Brookline Ave, Boston
OM RESTAURANT & LOUNGE | 617.576.2800 | 92 Winthrop St, Cambridge
PALLADIUM | 978.797.9696 | 261 Main St, Worcester
PARADISE ROCK CLUB | 617.562.8800 | 967 Comm Ave, Boston
P.A.'S LOUNGE | 617.776.1557 | 345 Somerville Ave, Somerville
PEARL STREET NIGHTCLUB | 413.584.0610 | 10 Pearl St, Northampton
PHOENIX LANDING | 617.576.6260 | 512 Mass Ave, Cambridge
PLOUGH & STARS | 617.576.0032 | 912 Mass Ave, Cambridge
THE POINT | 617.523.7020 | 147 Hanover St, Boston
PRECINCT | 617.623.9211 | 70 Union Sq, Somerville
QUINCY BEACHCOMBER | 617.479.8989 | 797 Wollaston Beach Blvd, Quincy
RAMROD | 617.266.2986 | 1254 Boylston St, Boston
RED ROCK BISTRO & BAR | 781.595.1414 | 141 Humphrey St, Swampscott
RHUMB LINE | 978.283.9732 | 40 Railroad Ave, Gloucester
RISE | 617.423.7473 | 306 Stuart St, Boston
RIVER GODS | 617.576.1881 | 125 River St, Cambridge
ROYALE | 617.338.7699 | 279 Tremont St, Boston
RUMOR | 617.422.0045 | 100 Warrenton St, Boston
RYLE'S | 617.576.9330 | 212 Hampshire St, Cambridge
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | 617.666.3589 | 335 Somerville Ave, Somerville
SAMBA BAR & GRILL | 617.718.9177 | 608 Somerville Ave, Somerville
SANCTUARY | 617.573.9333 | 189 State St, Boston
SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB | 617.562.4111 | at Doubletree Hotel, 400 Soldiers Field Rd, Boston
SHOWCASE LIVE | 888.354.7042 | 23 Patriot Pl, Foxborough
6B LOUNGE | 617.742.8565 | 6B Beacon St, Boston
SMOKEN' JOE'S BBQ | 617.254.5227 | 351 Washington St, Brighton
SPLASH ULTRA LOUNGE & BURGER BAR | 617.426.[illegible] | 150 Kneeland St, Boston
SUNSET CAFÉ | 617.547.2938 | 851 Cambridge St, Cambridge
THINK TANK | 617.500.3031 | 1 Kendall Square, Bldg 300, Cambridge
TIKI HIDEAWAY AT HOWARD JOHNSON | 617.267.3100 | 1271 Boylston St, Boston
TINKER'S SON | 781.561.7361 | 707 Main St, Norwell
TOAD | 617.497.4950 | 1920 Mass Ave, Cambridge
TOMMY DOYLE'S AT HARVARD | 617.864.0655 | 96 Winthrop St, Cambridge
TOP OF THE HUB | 617.536.1775 | at the Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St, Boston
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | 617.492.2327 | 10 Brookline St, Cambridge
UNDERBAR | 617.292.0080 | 275 Tremont St, Boston
VENU | 617.338.8061 | 100 Warrenton St, Boston
WALNUT STREET COFFEE CAFÉ | 781.556.1690 | 157 Walnut St, Lynn
WOLF DEN AT MOHEGAN SUN | 888.226.7711 | 1 Mohegan Sun Blvd, Uncasville, CT
WONDER BAR | 617.351.2665 | 186 Harvard Ave, Allston
ZUZU | 617.864.3278 | 474 Mass Ave, Cambridge

the middle east
cambridge, ma — central sq.
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@mideastclub — @zuzubar

DOWNSTAIRS
THU 12.30 8TH ANNUAL LAST NIGHT ON EARTH: CASPIAN, CONSTANTS, IREPRESS, MOVING MOUNTAINS, DJ SETS BY MIKE FROM JUNIUS
FRI 12.31 WALTHAM (1999), LETTERDAY AS AC/DC ORGAN BEATS AS QUEEN CRADLE TO THE GRAVE AS THE CLASH
SAT 1.1 ROCK ON PRESENTS: DADA WITH THE ENERGY
SUN 1.2 NAVENTERTAINMENT.COM PRESENTS STYLES P LOU ARMSTRONG, TERMANOLOGY, DC FAM & MORE
THU 1.6 THROWED WITH E-MARCÉ - 9PM, 18+
FRI 1.7 LEEDZ PRESENTS: HARBORTOWN, WAYSIDE & MORE

UPSTAIRS
THU 12.30 THE INDOBOX - NIGHT 1 W/ THE GREY AREA 21+ 2 NIGHT PASS AVAILABLE
FRI 12.31 THE INDOBOX - NIGHT 2 W/ ROOTS OF CREATION - 21+
SAT 1.1 THE JOSHUA TREE NEW YEAR'S DAY HANGOVER PARTY!
WED 1.5 THE SOUR NOTES, EKSI EKSO TONY BEAR, ST. CLAIRE
THU 1.6 MR. SISTER, MOUNT PERU, MEANDJOANCOLLINS
FRI 1.7 THE ENERGY, THE FLO, DAVE CRESPO
SAT 1.8 LOVE SICK RADIO, THE SILENT SCENE
ALL AGES - 1PM DOORS

HAPPY NEW YEAR! JUST ADDED:
1/1 MMOSS, THE KIA 1/20 TAB THE BAND 1/26 ZED'S DEAD
2/11 GREENSKY BLUEGRASS 2/25 AFROBRASIL 2/26 CADILLAC SKY
2/27 TOASTERS 30TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
3/5 THE RURAL ALBERTA ADVANTAGE 3/11 THAT 1 GUY

ZUZU - ZUZUBAR.COM
THU - CULT JAM WITH PAUL FOLEY
FRI - SOLID!: FLAVORHEARD
SAT - SOUELUHJAH: JOHN FUNKE
SUN - FOXY ACTION GROUP: FOXY!
MON - HOTLDH: GHOST SCORPION
TUES - NU LIFE: D'HANA + RIZZLA
WED - PENGUINI CLUB

CORNER/BAKERY
THU - CHELSEA CITY COUNCIL
FRI - GROOVOCRACY - NYE
SAT - PO' BOYZ B-3 ORGAN TRIO
SUN - BELLY DANCING
MON - CUT THE CORD PUNK
TUES - OPEN MIC COMEDY
WED - BELLY DANCING

GREAT SCOTT | Allston | 9 pm | "Under The Electric Candlelight: A Benefit for Diskovery" with New Warden + Cerebral Ballsy + Team Zombie + Fake Boys
JOHNNY D'S | Somerville | 8 pm | Ann & Mimi Rabson
LATITUDE 43 | Gloucester | "Dennis Monagle's Wednesday Night Showcase"
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | Sour Notes + Eksi Ekso + Tony Bear + St. Claire
MILKY WAY | Jamaica Plain | 9 pm | Jordan Valentine & the Sunday Saints
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Midweek Techno" with Pat Fontes + Sergio Santos + Soul Clap
RAMROD | Boston | 10 pm | "Hump!" with DJ Mike Giller
RUMOR | Boston | 10 pm | "Rumor Wednesdays" with DJ Adilson + DJ Boatslip + DJ Maryalice
SPLASH ULTRA LOUNGE & BURGER BAR | Boston | 10 pm | "Famous Wednesdays" with DJ Dirty Dek
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | 8:30 pm | Bob Nieske Trio
T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE | Cambridge | 9 pm | Tristan Omiand + Ryan Dowd + Gary Hedrick + Sal Ellington + The Kid
VENU | Boston | 10 pm | "Venu Wednesdays" with DJ Adilson + DJ Boatslip + DJ Maryalice
WOLF DEN AT MOHEGAN SUN | Uncasville | 7 pm | Eddie Seville & Vibro Kings

THURSDAY 6

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

ALCHEMY BISTRO | Gloucester | 7:30 pm | "Village Night" with Dan King
ATWOOD'S TAVERN | Cambridge | 10 pm | Dennis Brennan
BLUE WAVE | Boston | "Mambo Thursdays"
BURREN | Somerville | "Scattershot 80's Night"
CAFÉ LUNA | Cambridge | 8 pm | "Brazilian Thursdays"
CANTAB LOUNGE DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | Eric French & Mr. Hyde + Giant Target + Hello Ghost
CANTAB LOUNGE UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | 9 pm | Chicken Slacks
CHURCH | Boston | 8 pm | Bandits in the Woods
CLUB PASSIM | Cambridge | 8 pm | Liz Longley + Seth Glier
COLONIAL INN | Concord | 8 pm | John Fitzsimmons & Friends
CONGA'S | Cambridge | "Regalia Nights" with DJ Sisko
DADDY'S BEACH CLUB | Hull | 9 pm | "DJ Crazy Skip's Dance Party"
DARRYL'S CORNER BAR & KITCHEN | Boston | Pat Loomis Quartet
DISTRICT | Boston | 10 pm | "IN Thursdays"
ESTATE | Boston | 10 pm | "Clamlife" with Jessica Wild + Jujubee + Richie Ladue
FIRE & ICE | Cambridge | 10:30 pm | "Brazilian Night"
GREAT SCOTT | Allston | 8:30 pm | Ghost of a Saber Tooth Tiger + Julianna Barwick
IRON HORSE MUSIC HALL | Northampton | 7 pm | Greg Brown + Jason Wilber
MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Throwed" with DJ E-Marce
MIDDLE EAST UPSTAIRS | Cambridge | Mr. Sister + Mount Peru + Meand-JoanCollins + Points North
MIDDLESEX LOUNGE | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Make It New"
MIDWAY CAFÉ | Jamaica Plain | 10 pm | "Women's Dance Night" with DJ Summer's Eve
MOJITOS | Boston | "El Antro" with DJ JM
O'BRIEN'S | Allston | 9 pm | Ian Adams + Mel Lederman + Divorced
P.A.'S LOUNGE | Somerville | B.J. Snowden + Kate Ferenzc + Bigger Princess + ACLU Benefit + Wooden Teeth
PHOENIX LANDING | Cambridge | 10 pm | "Elements" with Crook & Lenore
PRECINCT | Somerville | Zagnutt + Brooklyns
RED ROCK BISTRO & BAR | Swampscott | 8:30 pm | Molholland Drive
ROYALE | Boston | 7 pm | Conspirator + Johnny Rabb + Biodiesel
RUMOR | Boston | 10 pm | "Signature Thursdays" with DJ Roger M
SALLY O'BRIEN'S | Somerville | 6 pm | Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band | 9 pm | Kevin Byrne Band
SAMBA BAR & GRILL | Somerville | 9 pm | Seresta Ao Vivo
SANCTUARY | Boston | 10 pm | "Latin Thursdays" with DJ Rip Hernandez + DJ Italian Ice + DJ Willie D
SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB | Boston | 8 pm | Tamir Hendelman Trio
6B LOUNGE | Boston | "Sin City Thursdays" with DJ Switch It Up
SMOKEN' JOE'S BBQ | Brighton | 8:30 pm | Neurotics
TOMMY DOYLE'S AT HARVARD | Cambridge | 9:30 pm | Like Trains & Taxis + Jeff Michaels
TOP OF THE HUB | Boston | 8:30 pm | Bob Nieske Trio
UNDERBAR | Boston | 10 pm | "Latin Quarter Thursday" with DJ Dres + DJ Franklin
WOLF DEN AT MOHEGAN SUN | Uncasville | 8 pm | Gone By Daylight
WONDER BAR | Allston | 10 pm | "Trend Thursdays" with DJ Breezzy

COMEDY

THURSDAY 30

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY STUDIO | 8 pm | James Creelman + Julie K. + Hannie Khalil + Alicia Love + Tim Messenger
COMIX AT FOXWOODS | 8 pm | Lynne Koplitz + Kevin Brennan + Julian McCullough
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S | 8:30 pm | Chris Zito
IMPROV ASYLUM | 8 + 10 pm | "Hungry Hungry Hipsters"
IMPROVBOSTON MAIN THEATER | 8 pm | "Harold Night" | 10 pm | "10 Slot"
MOTTLEY'S COMEDY CLUB | 8 pm | "Mike Dorval's Trials of Love"

FRIDAY 31

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

AMAZING THINGS ARTS CENTER | 8 pm | "New Year's Eve Comedy" with Joe Wong + Dan Hirshon
COMEDY STUDIO | 8 pm | Rick Canavan + Rick Jenkins + Ted Pettingell + Raj Sivaramian + Renata Tutko
COMIX AT FOXWOODS | 7 + 9:45 pm | Lynne Koplitz + Kevin Brennan + Julian McCullough
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S | 8 + 10:15 pm | Frank Santorelli + Danny Kelly + Kyle Crawford
GIGGLES COMEDY CLUB | 8:45 + 10 pm | Paul D'Angelo + Craig Murphy + Johnny Pizzi
HYNES CONVENTION CENTER | 7:30 pm | ImprovBoston | 8 pm | Tony V. + Brad Mastrangelo
IMPROV ASYLUM | 8 + 10 pm | "Hungry Hungry Hipsters"
NICK'S COMEDY STOP | 6 + 8 pm | Steve Sweeney
PARK PLAZA HOTEL | 8 pm | Jim Lauletta

SATURDAY 1

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY STUDIO | 8 pm | Jessie Baade + Max Fox + John Garrison + Kate Chiloni + Steve Macone
COMIX AT FOXWOODS | 7:30 + 10 pm | Lynne Koplitz + Kevin Brennan + Julian McCullough
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S | 8 + 10:15 pm | Chris Zito + Danny Kelly
IMPROV ASYLUM | 8 + 10 pm | "Hungry Hungry Hipsters"
IMPROVBOSTON MAIN THEATER | 6 pm | "Family Show"
IMPROVBOSTON STUDIO THEATER | 7 pm | "House Party"
MOTTLEY'S COMEDY CLUB | 8 pm | "Mottley's Presents"
NICK'S COMEDY STOP | 8:30 pm | Paul Keenan

SUNDAY 2

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY STUDIO | 8 pm | J. Bell + Fred Bernabe + PJ Brown + Laura Crawford + Max Fox
COMIX AT FOXWOODS | 8 pm | Johnny Joyce + Poppy Champlin
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S | 9 pm | "Open Mike Night"

MEET THE MAYOR

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

BOSTON PHOENIX
TJ MILLER
(foursquare.com/user/3403632)

HAS ANYONE EVER CONFUSED YOU WITH THE OTHER T.J. MILLER? The actor? No, but a friend of mine in New York saw T.J. Miller was performing at some comedy club. He texted me and was like, "Hey, are you performing tonight?"

ARE YOU PROUD TO SHARE YOUR NAME WITH A SUCCESSFUL ACTOR/COMEDIAN? Not really. Although his recent film *is* a Yogi Bear film. The only other film I know him from was *Cloverfield*, and he was kind of a douchebag in that.

WOULD YOU TRADE PLACES WITH HIM? No. I like what I'm doing.

YOU'D RATHER BE WEB DEVELOPER FOR THE *PHOENIX* INSTEAD OF A FAMOUS ACTOR? Well, I question whether he's famous.

HE'S PLAYING RANGER JONES. HE'S FAMOUS. Yeah, you're right. Well, you never know. Maybe one of these days, I will be *more* famous.

WHY ARE THERE LITTLE BOTTLES OF WEIRD, FRUIT-FLAVORED LIQUOR ALL OVER THE OFFICE? Actually, those have been here for a couple of years. Sara Faith Alterman worked here, and when she left, she gave everyone a small bottle of bourbon or vodka. I think I have apple-cider vodka on my desk. I imagine drinking it might be painful.

_Barry Thompson

Want to be interviewed about your Foursquare mayorship? Give us a shout: tweet @bostonphoenix or email listings@phx.com. And for tips, friend us: foursquare.com/bostonphoenix.

MONDAY 3

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S | 8:30 pm | Mitch Stinson

TUESDAY 4

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY STUDIO | 8 pm | "Mystery Lounge!"
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S | 8:30 pm | Jim Lauletta

WEDNESDAY 5

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY STUDIO | 8 pm | Dan Burgess + Maria Ciampa + Max Fox + James George + Wes Hazard
COMIX AT FOXWOODS | 8 pm | Johnny Joyce + Poppy Champlin
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S | 8:30 pm | Paul Nardizzi
IMPROV ASYLUM | 8 pm | "Vanity Project"

THURSDAY 6

See Club Directory for phone numbers and addresses.

COMEDY STUDIO | 8 pm | Shaun Bedgood + Belinda Borrelli + Chris Coxen + Dan Crohn + Matt D
COMIX AT FOXWOODS | 8 pm | Rachel Feinstein
DICK'S BEANTOWN COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S | 8:30 pm | Chris Zito
IMPROV ASYLUM | 8 pm | "Hungry Hungry Hipsters"
IMPROVBOSTON MAIN THEATER | 10 pm | "10 Slot"
MOTTLEY'S COMEDY CLUB | 8 pm | "Comedy Rivalry: Selena Coppock vs. Leah Dubie"

CONCERTS

Popular

THURSDAY 30

FOLK OPEN MIC | With Peter Neuendorffer + Dan Cloutier | 7:30 pm | Amazing Things Arts Center, 160 Hollis St, Framingham | $6 | 508.405.2787
CARRIE UNDERWOOD | 8 pm | MGM Grand at Foxwoods, 39 Norwich Westerly Rd, Ledyard, CT | $100-$150 | 800.745.3000 or ticketmaster.com

FRIDAY 31

SHIMON BEN-SHIR & FRIENDS | 7:30 pm | Boston Public Library, Rabb Hall, Copley Square, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
BOSTON SAXOPHONE QUARTET | 6 pm | City Place, 115 Stuart St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
"CITY CELEBRATES! NEW YEAR'S EVE" | With Santa Mamba + Shelley Chandelier & Her One Night Band + Boo City + Buzzard Blues Band + Pumpkin Head Ted | 5 pm | Zeiterion Theatre, 684 Purchase St, New Bedford | free | 508.997.5664
COVER-UP | 8:45 pm | City Place, 115 Stuart St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
DAVID WAX MUSEUM | 9 pm | St. Paul's Cathedral, 138 Tremont St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
FATAL FLAW | 10 pm | Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
HEY MAMA | 7:30 pm | St. Paul's Cathedral, 138 Tremont St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
INTRANSITIVE RECORDINGS | 7:30 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
KOMINAS BAND | 7:30 pm | Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
BETTY LAVETTE + JENNY DEE & THE DEELINQUENTS | 8 pm | Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
"AMOS LEE & MUTLU NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW" | 8 pm | Calvin Theatre, 19 King St, Northampton | $28.50-$38.50 | 413.586.2632
"LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE: A NEW YEAR'S CABARET" | With Neil A. Casey + Kerry A. Dowling + Maureen Keiller + Nick Connell | 9:30 pm | Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
LIONEL LOUEKE TRIO + TAKESHI OHBAYASHI QUARTET | 6:30 pm | Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass Ave, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
LYNYRD SKYNYRD | 10:30 pm | MGM Grand at Foxwoods, 39 Norwich Westerly Rd, Ledyard, CT | $75-$110 | 800.745.3000 or ticketmaster.com
CASS MCCOMBS BAND | 10 pm | Modern Theatre, 525 Washington St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA + KEN SCHAPHORST | 4 pm | First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
"NEW YEAR'S EVE BLUE OCEAN BASH" | With Entrain | 7 pm | Blue Ocean Music Hall, 4 Oceanfront North, Salisbury | $20; $25 with buffet | 978.462.5888
"THE NIGHT SHE SLEPT WITH A BEAR" | A new work of poetry and music with Holly Anderson + Chris Brokaw | 9 pm | Modern Theatre, 525 Washington St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
"A SHAKESPEARE CABARET" | 7:30 pm | Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
"THE STEAMCRUNK LOUNGE" | Music and performances by Johnny Blazes + Madge of Honor + Meff & JoJo's Tiny Instrument Revue + Trabants + Walter Sickert & the Army of Broken Toys + Dezrah the Strange | 7:30 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
THIRD EYE BLIND | 9 pm | Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St, Boston | $50-$65 | 800.745.3000 or ticketmaster.com
DEAN WAREHAM + BRITTA PHILLIPS + NINA NASTASIA | *13 Most Beautiful...Songs for Andy Warhol's Screen Tests* | 8 pm | Paramount Theatre, 559 Washington St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
"WBZ-TV COPLEY SQUARE COUNTDOWN" | With DJ Die Young | 10 pm | Copley Square, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org

Continued on p 40

church
Thursday 12/30 8pm $8 21+
The Short Summers • The Action Verbs
Powers and the Evil Animals
Friday 12/31 8pm $25 21+
Church Invites You to a
ROYAL & ROCKING New Years Eve Party
The Upper Crust • The Lights Out (cd release)
Apple Betty
Free Champagne Toast at Midnight!
Saturday 01/01 6pm
Closed For Holiday
Sunday 01/02 7pm $6 18+
Serrano • Thyshope • Moose Knuckle • SMF
Monday 01/03 8pm $7 21+
Yankee Power • Convertible Hearse
Nick Romanov & the Royal Family
Tuesday 01/04 8pm $6 21+
The Big Drift • Sam Reid & the Riot Act
The Loud Clappers
Wednesday 01/05 8pm $7 21+
The Hookups • TBD
Thursday 01/06 8pm $8 18+
Bandit In The Woods • Busy Arms
69 Kilmarnock St
Boston, 02215 • 617.236.7600
churchofboston.com

Best of 10
GREAT SCOTT
GREATSCOTTBOSTON.COM
THU 12.30.10 Wack Trial Records
Voyager
Ten Thirty Nine
Crippling Fear
Camden • 18+ 9pm $8.00
FRI 12.31.10 The Pill
the p.11 New Year's Eve Party
DJs Ken & Michael V.
w/ musical guests
Freezepop
Visuals by Videodrome Discotheque
21+ 9pm $20 door
SAT 01.01.11 Freezepop
New Collisions
Plushgun
Andre Obin
18+ 8pm $10 adv. / $12 door
MON 01.03.11 Get Laid • Drummers (nem. Pretty & Nice)
IDNOCLIP • Weekend Dads
18+ 9pm $7.00
WED 01.05.11 Under The Electric Candlelight
A Benefit for Diskovery featuring
The New Warden • Cerebral Ballsy
Team Zombie • The Fake Boys
18+ 8pm $7.00
1222 COMMONWEALTH AVE
ALLSTON, MA 02134
617.566.4514

SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB
BOSTON'S #1 JAZZ CLUB!
December 31 8pm & 11pm
NEW YEAR'S EVE
PIECES OF A DREAM
Dinner, Show and Overnight Packages with Champagne Toast & New Year's Day Breakfast
January 1 8pm & 10pm
PIECES OF A DREAM
January 6 8pm
TAMIR HENDELMAN TRIO
January 7-8 8pm & 10pm
JANE MONHEIT
DOUBLETREE GUEST SUITES
Storrow Dr. & Mass Pike Exit
Call for Tickets & Info at: 617-562-4111
Order on-line at www.scullersjazz.com

Listings

Continued from p 39

"WHAT ARE YOU DOING NEW YEAR'S EVE? WITH KATHY ST. GEORGE" | 7 pm | Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham | $44-$48 | 781.279.2200

SATURDAY 1

SARAH MCLACHLAN & FRIENDS | 8 pm | MGM Grand at Foxwoods, 39 Norwich Westerly Rd., Ledyard, CT | $50-$80 | 800.745.3000 or ticketmaster.com
ANDERS OSBORNE | 8 pm | Narrows Center for the Arts, 175 Martine St., Fall River | $25; $22 advance | 508.324.1926

SUNDAY 2

SUMIE KANEKO | 2 pm | Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton | Free | 617.796.1360

MONDAY 3

FOLK OPEN MIC | With Terry Kitchen | 8 pm | Center for Arts In Natick, 14 Summer St., Natick | Free | 508.647.0097
WU-TANG CLAN + BAD RABBITS | 9 pm | Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston | $35-$42 | 800.745.3000 or ticketmaster.com

TUESDAY 4

"JAZZ JAM" | With Bill Jones + Sean Faria + Miki Matsuki | 8 pm | Amazing Things Arts Center, 160 Hollis St., Framingham | $6 | 508.405.2787

WEDNESDAY 5

SETH GLIER | 6 pm | Apple Flagship Store, 815 Boylston Street, Boston | Free | 617.385.9400

THURSDAY 6

MARC COHN | 7:30 pm | Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, NH | $34-$44 | 603.436.9900
FOLK OPEN MIC | With Amy Petty + Dan Cloutier | 7:30 pm | Amazing Things Arts Center, 160 Hollis St., Framingham | $6 | 508.405.2787
TEXAS TENORS | 8 pm | Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell | $27.50-$47.50 | 978.454.2299

Classical

FRIDAY 31

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS | Varied works for the organ | 10 pm | Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
BOSTON BAROQUE | Corelli's Concerto Grosso Opus 6 No. 9 [*Christmas Concerto*], Bach's Concerto for Violin and Oboe BWV 1060, Geminiani's Concerto Grosso No. 12, and Handel's *Water Music* Suite in F | Fri 8 pm; Sat 3 pm | Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge | $29-$71 | 617.496.6391
FERNANDO OTERO | Piano recital | 9:30 + 10:30 pm | Boston Public Library Rabb Hall, 700 Boylston St., Copley Square, Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
HEINRICH CHRISTENSEN | Works for organ by Bach and Schumann | 9 pm | King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
OLD SOUTH BRASS, ORGAN & PERCUSSION | 3:30 pm | Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
OPERA BOSTON | Antonio Salieri's *First the Music and Then the Words* | 8:30 + 10:30 pm | Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
PROJECT STEP | Performances by the Honors String Quartet and more, under the direction of Mariana Green-Hill | 1 + 2 pm | First Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org

SATURDAY 1

BOSTON BAROQUE | See listing for Fri

TUESDAY 4

BRANDON SANTINI | Works for organ by Schumann, de Grigny, and Mendelssohn | 12:15 pm | King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston | $3 | 617.227.2155

WEDNESDAY 5

MELISSA PARK VOSHELL AND VALERIE STARK | Works for flute and piano by Copland, Lias, and Prokofiev | 5:30 pm | Church of St. John the Evangelist, 35 Bowdoin St., Boston | Free | 617.227.5242

THURSDAY 6

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY JAMES LEVINE | Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex*, with Michelle DeYoung [Jocasta], Russell Thomas [Oedipus], Matthew Plenk [Shepherd], Albert Dohmen [Creon, Messenger], Raymond Aceto [Tiresias], and Örs Kisfaludy [Narrator]; Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle*, with DeYoung [Judith] and Dohmen [Bluebeard] | 8 pm | Symphony Hall, 301 Mass Ave, Boston | $29-$108 | 617.266.1200

DANCE

THURSDAY 30

BOSTON BALLET | *The Nutcracker* | Thurs 1 + 7:30 pm; Fri 7:30 pm | Opera House, 539 Washington St., Boston | $35-$162 | 617.931.ARTS

FRIDAY 31

BOSTON BHANGRA | Traditional Indian folk dance fused with modern pop music | 7:30 + 9:15 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
CHU LING DANCE | Mix of traditional Chinese folk and classical dance numbers with modern dance and martial arts | 1 + 3 + 4:30 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
FUERZA INTERNATIONAL | Traditional dances from Puerto Rico, Colombia, Venezuela, and the Dominican Republic | 1 + 2:30 + 3:30 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
A MAJOR DANCE COMPANY | *Dream, Dance, Move* | 2 + 4 + 5 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
MONKEYHOUSE | Works by Karen Krolak, Nicole Harris, and Amelia O'Dowd | 8:15 + 10 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
ORIGINATION / O'SHEA CHAPLIN | OrigiNation specializes in hip-hop, jazz, tap, step, and Caribbean dance; the O'Shea Chaplin Academy of Irish Dance presents a combination of traditional and contemporary Irish dance and costumes | 1:45 + 3:15 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston | $15 for First Night button | firstnight.org
BOSTON BALLET | See listing for Thurs

LIT EVENTS

FRIDAY 31

BOSTON POETRY SLAM | 7:30 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org
MASSMOUTH STORY SLAM | 8 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org

SATURDAY 1

BREAKING BAGELS WITH THE BARDS | 9 am | Au Bon Pain at Davis Square, 18-48 Holland St., Somerville | Free | 617.623.9601
OPEN BARK POETRY & MUSIC | With Deborah M. Priestly | 8:15 pm | Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge | $3 to $5 donation | 617.354.5287

MONDAY 3

STONE SOUP POETRY OPEN MIC | 8 pm | Out of the Blue Gallery, 106 Prospect St., Cambridge | $4 | 617.354.5287

TUESDAY 4

BOOK GROUP | *The Irresistible Henry House* discussion | 10:30 am | South Boston Branch Library, 646 East Broadway, Boston | Free | 617.268.0180
MICAH NATHAN | *Losing Graceland* discussion | 7 pm | Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline | Free | 617.566.6660

WEDNESDAY 5

BOSTON POETRY SEMI-FINAL SPEED SLAM | 8 pm | Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $3 | 617.354.2685

THURSDAY 6

KIM EDWARDS | *The Lake of Dreams* discussion | 6 pm | Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline | $5 | 617.566.6660
CHRISTOPHER KAIN | *Twentieth Century Limited* reading | 6:30 pm | Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 12 Sedgwick St., Jamaica Plain | Free | 617.524.2053
JOSHUA RUBENSTEIN | 5 pm | UpStairs on the Square, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge | Free | 617.864.1933
SUSAN SENATOR | *Making Peace With Autism* and *The Autism Mom's Survival Guide* discussion and signing | 7 pm | Unitarian Universalist Society of Wellesley Hills, 309 Washington St., Wellesley | Free | 781.235.7423

TALKS

THURSDAY 30

"STORIES FROM A LIVING LEGEND" | With Trudie Lamb Richmond | 2 pm | Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, 110 Pequot Trail, Mashantucket, CT | Free, with museum admission | 800.411.9671

TUESDAY 4

"ACCESSIBILITY TO GLOUCESTER'S OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION AREAS" | With the Community Access Advocacy Team | 2 pm | Independent Living Center of the North Shore and Cape Ann, 27 Congress St., Suite 107, Salem | Free | 978.741.0077
"ORGANIZING TO REDUCE STRESS AND ENJOY LIFE MORE" | With Marilyn Paul | 7:30 pm | Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton | Free | 617.796.1360

EVENTS

THURSDAY 30

DAVEY THE CLOWN | Interactive performance by one of Boston's best known clowns | 10:30 am | Orpheum Theatre Foxboro, 1 School St., Foxborough | $8 | 508.543.2787

SUNDAY 2

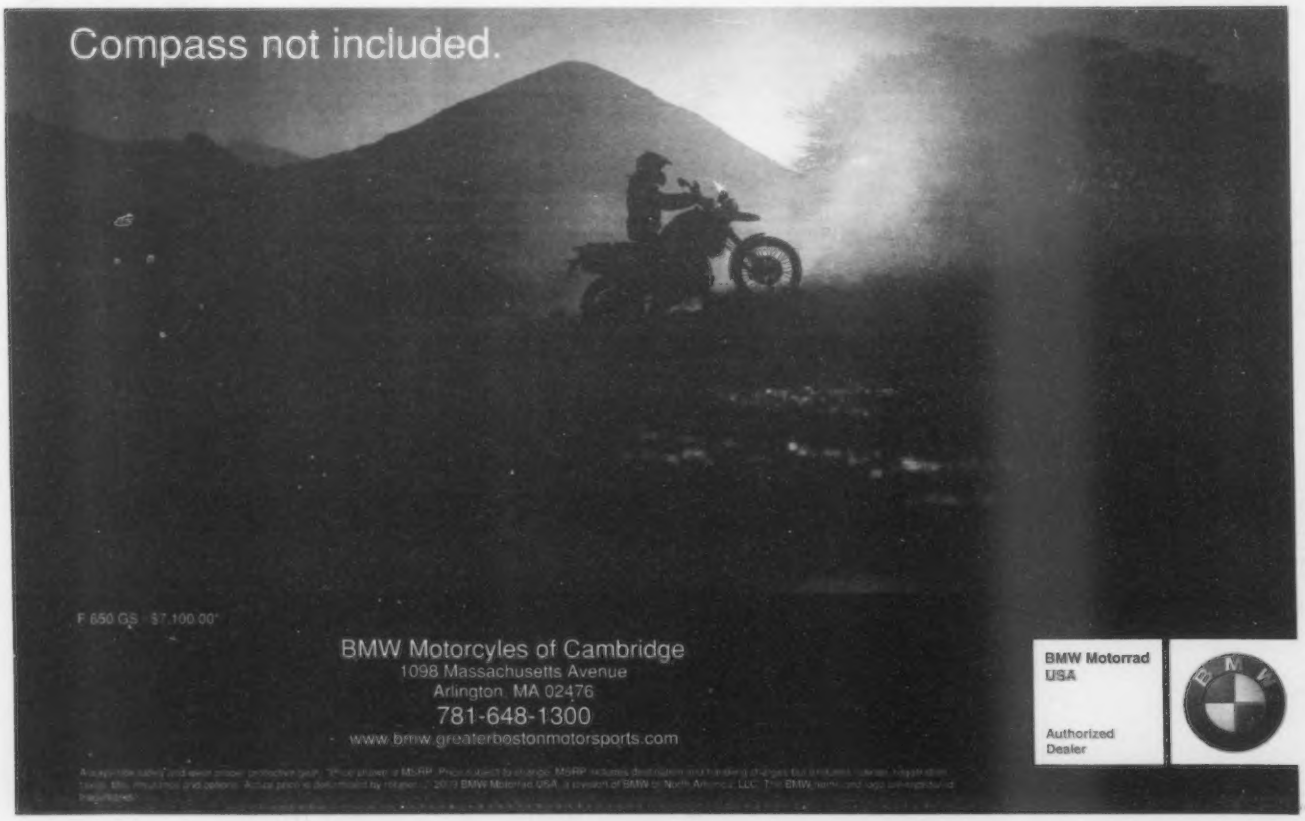
CRUISE TO SPECTACLE ISLAND | Explore on your own or take a guided tour with a Friends of Boston Harbor Islands volunteer | 11 am | Fox Point Landing, UMass Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston | $25; $22 seniors | 617.287.5000

WEDNESDAY 5

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL'S *DRALION* | Fusion of ancient Chinese circus traditions and the avant-garde style of Cirque du Soleil | 7:30 pm | Agganis Arena, 925 Comm Ave, Boston | $45-$84 | 800.745.3000 or ticketmaster.com

THURSDAY 6

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL'S *DRALION* | See listing for Wed



MARSHA LUBIN performs with Nephtaliem for the Beehive's "Soul Resolution" New Year's Eve party.

NEW YEAR'S

For more New Year's events, visit thephoenix.com/newyears.

FRIDAY 31

ARTICULATION | Spoken word performance that includes poems and sketches covering topics including love, abuse, expectations, racism, violence, betrayal | 8 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org

"BACK BAY GALA 40+ NYE" | Cocktail reception, choice of dinner or hors d'oeuvres reception, and music by the Love Dogs, DJ Karl, and more | 7:30 pm | Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Ln, Boston | $59–$169 | 617.385.4212

"BIG TOP NYE 2011" | With DJ Breeazy + Erik Velez | 9 pm | Royale, 279 Tremont St, Boston | $65 | 617.338.7699

"BLIZZARD OF 2011" | Music from DJ A.I and Josh Carl, midnight snowstorm/balloon drop, photo booth, and more | 9 pm | Greatest Bar, 262 Friend St, Boston | $50–$75 | 617.367.0544

"BOARDWALK EMPIRE NEW YEAR'S EVE" | Live music from Louie and Lisa Bello, a DJ, appetizers, party favors, and champagne toast | 7 pm | Red Sky, 16 North St # 18, Boston | $50 | 617.742.3333

"BOMBAY CINEMA" | Films in Hindi with English subtitles: *Guru*, *Lage Raho Munnabhai*, *Race*, and *Fanaa* | noon-11 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org

"BOSTON'S BEST NYE 2011" | With DJ Costa | 10 pm | Estate, 1 Boylston Pl, Boston | $50 | 617.351.7000

"BOSTON'S RESOLUTION BALL" | Cocktail reception, dinner, and music from Felix Brown Band and DJ Samuel L. | 7:30 pm | Seaport World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd, Boston | $59–$169 | 617.385.5000

"THE BUD'S NEW YEAR'S EVE BLOWOUT: RING IN 2011 LIKE IT'S 1999" | 8 pm | Rosebud Bar & Lounge, 381 Summer St, Somerville | $15 | 617.666.6015

"CAPTURED- THE JOURNEY NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW" | With WFNX DJs Keith Dakin and Fletcher | 10 pm | Hard Rock Café, 22-24 Clinton St, Boston | $25 | ticketweb.com

"CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR AT THE BASEBALL TAVERN" | Cash bar, appetizers, and champagne toast | 9 pm | Baseball Tavern, 1270 Boylston St, Boston | $25 | 617.867.6526

"CHAMPAGNE LIFE" | Music by DJ Chubby Chub, champagne toast, screening of the ball drop, and more | 10 pm | Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St, Somerville | $45–$65 | 617.628.1000

"THE COLOR OF FILM" | *Fresh Press*, *Paperboy*, *The Cycle*, *Me and the Devil Blues*, and *American Faust: From Condi to Neo Condi* | 7:30-11 pm | Hynes Convention Center, Room 200, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org

DISTRICT NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY | Red carpet entry, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, and champagne toast | 9 pm | District, 180 Lincoln St, Boston | $75 | 617.426.0180

***THE DONKEY SHOW* NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY** | With light fare and champagne toast | 9 pm | Oberon, 2 Arrow St, Cambridge | $85 VIP seats; $55 dance floor only | cluboberon.com

"DWIGHT & NICOLE'S NEW YEAR'S EVE" | Two concerts; first showing has optional pre-show prix fixe dinner at the West Side Lounge | 8 + 10:30 pm | Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $40–$75 | brownpapertickets.com

FIREWORKS OVER BOSTON HARBOR | midnight | Boston Harborwalk Grandstand, Boston Harbor | free | firstnight.org

"FIRST NIGHT GRAND OPENING NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY" | Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, champagne toast, live viewing of the ball drop, and VIP seating for groups | 9 pm | Cure Lounge, 246 Tremont St, Boston | $75 | curelounge.com

"FRESH PRODUCE VS. MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE NYE BASH" | With DJs Neil Armstrong + Tommee + Knife + Death Star + Damien Paul + Mikey Lee | 9:30 pm | Good Life, 28 Kingston St, Boston | $30 | goodlifebar.com

"GALACTICA: A TOGETHER NYE" | With Nathanael Bluhm + Volvox + DJezus + DJ Melee | 8 pm | Think Tank, 1 Kendall Square, Bldg 300, Cambridge | $35; $25 advance | 617.500.3031

"GLAM NEW YEAR'S EVE 2011" | Red carpet entrance, DJ's, and champagne toast. | 9 pm | Saint, 90 Exeter St, Boston | $50 | 617.236.1134

"GLOBAL GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE" | Buffet, gift bags, party favors, two rooms of music, and champagne toast | 9 pm | Lir, 903-905 Boylston St, Boston | $65; $95 with five-drink ticket | 617.778.0089

GRAFTON STREET PUB NYE CELEBRATION | Party favors and champagne toast | 10 pm | Grafton Street Pub and Grill, 1230 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $20; $48 with dinner | 617.497.0400

"THE GRAND PROCESSION: BLAST OFF BOSTON!" | 5:30 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | free | firstnight.org

GYPSY BAR NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION | Champagne toast and party favors | 9 pm | Gypsy Bar, 116 Boylston St, Boston | $70 | 617.482.7799

HEARNOWLIVE'S "ROCKIN' NEW YEAR'S EVE!" | With Love In Stockholm | 9 pm | Precinct, 70 Union Sq, Somerville | $10 | 617.623.9211

"JADED XTREME KINKY NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION" | Kinky wrestling, fetish performances, Chinese buffet, music from DJs Dirge and Xero, and more | 9 pm | Blue Shamrock, 105 Market St, Lowell | $15 | 978.458.1288

KINGS' NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY | With bowling, music, party-favors, and pre fixe three-course dinner with champagne toast | 8 pm | Kings, 50 Dalton St, Ste 1, Boston | No cover; dinner $45 | 617.266.2695

NEW ENGLAND ANIME SOCIETY SCREENINGS | *Hello Kitty*, *Hamtaro*, *Panda Co Panda*, *Big Windup*, *Star Blazers*, *Ronin Warriors*, *Millennium Actress*, *The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya*, *Great Teacher Onizuka*, and *Mighty Space Miners* | 1:30 pm | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org

NEW YEAR'S CRUISE 2011 WITH MASS BAY LINES | Three-hour cruise with snacks, DJ, party favors, champagne toast, and fireworks | 9 pm | Rowes Wharf, Atlantic Ave, Boston | $59 | massbaylines.com

NEW YEAR'S EVE 2011 AT GAME ON | Appetizer and pizza buffets, $30,000 worth in prizes, party favors, midnight balloon drop, DJ, and champagne toast | 8 pm | Game On!, 4 Yawkey Way, Boston | $25 | 617.536.1029

NEW YEAR'S EVE/20TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY | Open bar, three floors of music, party favors, and champagne toast | 10 pm | Umbria, 295 Franklin St, Boston | $125 | 617.338.1000

NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH | Hosted by Katerina Graham of *The Vampire Diaries* | 9 pm | SHRINE at MGM Grand, 240 MGM Grand Dr, Mashantucket, CT | $50 | 861.312.8487

NEW YEAR'S EVE BOSTON 2011 | Cash bar, photo booth, live music, aerial acrobatics, and more | 9 pm | Artists For Humanity, 100 West 2nd St, Boston | $75 | 617.268.7620

"NEW YEAR'S EVE GAGA GALA" | Lady Gaga theme party | 9 pm | Phoenix Landing, 512 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $20; $15 advance; $10 with Gaga costume | phoenixlandingbar.com

NEW YEAR'S EVE ON TOP OF THE HUB | Cocktail reception, six-course prix fixe dinner, music by the Bob Nieske Group, champagne toast, and fireworks | 7:30 pm | Top of the Hub, Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St, Boston | $250 | 617.536.1775

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY AT STODDARD'S | Complimentary snacks, live band, DJ, ball drop, and champagne toast; optional pre-party dinner | 9 pm | Stoddard's Fine Food and Ale, 48 Temple Place, Boston | $50; $85 with dinner | 617.426.0048

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT RUSSELL HOUSE TAVERN | Special New Year's dinner, two-hour floor party, party favors, and champagne toast | 5 pm | Russell House Tavern, 14 JFK St, Harvard Square, Cambridge | $59, includes meal | 617.500.6055

NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH FORTY DEUCE WORLD-FAMOUS BURLESQUE | Burlesque performances and dancing | 8 pm | Revolution Rock Bar, 200 High St, Boston | $60 | 617.261.4200

"NYE PARTY ON THE HARBOR" | Performances by Maxine Nightingale, Deney Terrio Dance Party, and DJ JJ Wright; dinner, champagne bar, midnight fireworks, and an appearance by special guest Shaquille O'Neal (!); hosted by Strega's Nick Varano | 7 pm | InterContinental Boston, 510 Atlantic Ave, Boston | $279 | 617.747.1000

"NYE 2011 WINTER WONDERLAND" | White decor, party favors, hors d'oeuvres, chocolate fountain, and more | 10 pm | Wonder Bar, 186 Harvard Ave, Allston | $40 | 617.351.2665

THE PRETENDER | Filmmaker Aaron Brown and musician Cass McCombs present a multi-media musical collaboration | 8 pm | Modern Theatre, 525 Washington St, Boston | $15–$18 (First Night button)

"REDLINE'S EPIC NYE PARTY" | DJ, party favors, and champagne toast | 10 pm | Redline, 59 JFK St, Cambridge | $40; $60 with prix fixe meal | 617.491.9851

"RING IN 2011 PROHIBITION-STYLE" | Roaring Twenties theme party; wear a zoot suit or flapper dress | 9 pm | Noir, Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St, Cambridge | $200/table (seats up to six and comes with a bottle of champagne) | 617.661.8010

"ROCK N' ROLL HEAVEN NEW YEAR'S BASH" | With Waltham + Letterday (as AC/DC) + Organ Beats (as Queen) + Cradle to the Grave (as The Clash); wear all white or dress as your favorite dead celebrity | 9 pm | Middle East Downstairs, 480 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $25 | ticketweb.com

"ROYAL & ROCKIN' NEW YEAR'S EVE" | With The Upper Crust, The Lights Out, and Apple Betty | 8 pm | Church, 69 Kilmarnock St, Boston | $25; $20 advance | churchofboston.com

RUMOR NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY | Two rooms of music, red carpet entrance with "paparazzi," party favors, prizes, and champagne toast | 9 pm | Rumor, 100 Warrenton St, Boston | $75 | 617.422.0045

"SOUL RESOLUTION! - THE BEEHIVE NEW YEAR'S EVE 2011" | Live music by Akashic Record (featuring Marsha Lubing and Nephtaliem), belly dancing with Phaedra Rose, food, and champagne toast | 9 pm | Beehive, 541 Tremont St, Boston | $65; $95 with food | beehiveboston.com

"SWING DANCE NEW YEAR'S EVE GREAT GATSBY GALA" | With Shawn Hershey & Fried Bananas | 9 pm | Crosby Whistle Stop, 24 Roland St, Charlestown | $30; $25 advance | bostonswingcentral.org

"SYNERGY'S 007 TIMELESS NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA" | Upscale James Bond-themed party "for the vogue and refined" | 9:30 pm | Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St, Boston | $70–$140 | synergynye.com

UHURU AFRIKA NEW YEAR'S EVE FETE | Specialty cocktails, gift bags, party favors, and champagne toast | 9 pm | All Asia Café, 334 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $25 | 617.497.1544

WBZ-TV COPLEY SQUARE COUNTDOWN | With DJ Die Young | 10 pm | Copley Square, Boston | free | firstnight.org

WFNX PRESENTS "ROCK ON FILM" | Classic punk and new wave footage, *Taqwacore: The Birth of Punk Islam*, *Strange Powers*, *Do It Again*, and *Who is Harry Nilsson (And Why is Everybody Talking About Him?)* | 2-11 pm | Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St, Boston | Included with First Night button, $18 | firstnight.org

WHISKEY PARK BOSTON PRESENTS NEW YEARS EVE 2011 | Party favors, music by DJ Moneybags, and champagne toast | 9 pm | Whiskey Park, 50 Park Plaza, Boston | $50 | 617.542.1482

SATURDAY 1

"BETTER OFF DEAD: NEW YEAR'S DAY HANGOVER BRUNCH" | With $1 oysters | 10 am | Russell House Tavern, 14 JFK St, Harvard Square, Cambridge | Per meal | 617.500.6055

"BLOODY HANGOVER HEROES" | New wave dance party with Bloody Mary specials and DJ Chris Ewen | 9 pm | T.T. the Bear's Place, 10 Brookline St, Cambridge | $7 | ttthebears.com

NEW YEAR'S DAY RECOVERY BRUNCH | Nurse your hangover with a "Rejuvenation Brunch Buffet," Bloody Mary included | 11:30 am | Langham Hotel Boston, 250 Franklin St, Boston | $58 | 617.451.1900

NEW YEAR'S DAY WINTER WALK | Walkers meet up at the Golf Clubhouse | 2 pm | Franklin Park, 1 Franklin Park Rd, Boston | Free | 617.541.5466

"SPARKLE: MASSACHUSETTS TRANSGENDER POLITICAL COALITION'S ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S DAY PARTY!" | Two DJs, local bands, glitter, and cash bar | 9 pm | Midway Café, 3496 Washington St, Jamaica Plain | $10; $7 advance | 617.524.9038

GAY & LESBIAN

THURSDAY 30

CRUSH | Lesbian dance party with DJ Maryalice and DJ Super Squirrel | 10 pm | Caprice Lounge, 275 Tremont St, Boston | $8 | 617.292.0080

JACQUES' ANGELS | With Kris Knievil, Melinda Wilson, and special guests | 10:30 pm | Jacque's Cabaret, 79 Broadway, Boston | $6 | 617.426.8902

QUEERAOKE | Dancing, singing, costumes, and Women's Dance Night with DJ Summer's Eve | 10 pm | Midway Café, 3496 Washington St, Jamaica Plain | $5 | 617.524.9038

REVOLUTION THURSDAYS | Hot Thursday night dance party with VJ Cliff C and VJ Rompy | 7 pm | Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave, Boston | Free | 617.536.0966

FRIDAY 31

BEARS IN THE BACKROOM | Strict dresscode enforced, with DJ Danae Jacovidis | 10 pm | Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St, Boston | $10 | 617.266.2986

MISS-LEADING LADIES | With Kris Knievil, Destiny, Mizery, Lakia Mondale, and Fena Barbitail | Fri 10:15 pm; Sat 8 + 10:15 pm | Jacque's Cabaret, 79 Broadway, Boston | $10 | 617.426.8902

SATURDAY 1

LEATHER NIGHT OUT | Hottest leather bar action in New England, with DJ Duo Freespace | 10 pm | Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St, Boston | $10 | 617.266.2986

MISS-LEADING LADIES | See listing for Fri

SUNDAY 2

BACK 2 BASICS TEA DANCE | Disco and retro favorites mixed in with top 40 remixes by DJ Harrison | 4 pm | Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave, Boston | Free | 617.536.0966

CLUB CLASSICS | DJ Ace Boogie spinning disco, '80s, '70s, and more | 10 pm | Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St, Boston | Free | 617.266.2986

MONDAY 3

DIRTY SEXY MONDAY | DSM Divas and DJ Susan Esthera host drag comedy show | 10 pm | Machine, 1256 Boylston St, Boston | $12 | 617.818.1929

THE ATTIC | DJ Kuro spinning 90s, retro, and glam | 10 pm | Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St, Boston | $10 | 617.266.2986

TUESDAY 4

VICE | DJ Sun One spinning a mix of hip hop, dance, and electro | 10 pm | Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St, Boston | Free | 617.266.2986

WEDNESDAY 5

HUMP! | Dance music from DJ Mike Giller flanked by go-go dancers | 10 pm | Ramrod, 1254 Boylston St, Boston | Free | 617.266.2986

PUMPS DRAG LOUNGE | Trans night hosted by Mistress Delilah with Kris Knievil behind the bar | 10 pm | Machine, 1256 Boylston St, Boston | Free | 617.536.1950

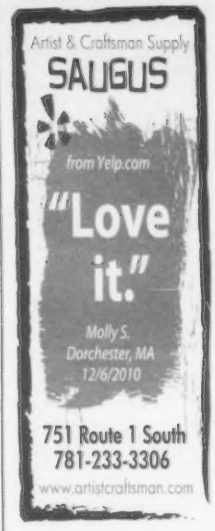
THURSDAY 6

CRUSH | See listing for previous Thurs

JACQUES' ANGELS | See listing for previous Thurs

QUEERAOKE | See listing for previous Thurs

REVOLUTION THURSDAYS | See listing for previous Thurs



MORE ART LISTINGS + "ATTRACTIONS" AT THEPHOENIX.COM

Art Listings

"NEAL RANTOUL: TWENTY-FIVE YEARS" is at the Panopticon Gallery through January 4.

GALLERIES

Admission to the following galleries is free, unless otherwise noted. In addition to the hours listed here, many galleries are open by appointment.

ADDISON GALLERY OF AMERICAN ART | 978.749.4015 | Phillips Academy, 180 Main St, Andover | andover.edu/addison | Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm; Sun 1-5 pm | Through Feb 11: "Sheila Hicks: 50 Years"

ARLINGTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS | 781.648.6220 | 41 Foster St, Arlington | acarts.org | Mon-Fri 9 am–5 pm | Through Jan 15: "Taking Off" Juried Student Exhibition

ARS LIBRI | 617.357.5212 | 500 Harrison Ave, Boston | arslibri.com | Mon-Fri 9 am-6 pm; Sat 11 am-5 pm | Through Jan 31: "Master Drawings from the Peter A. Wick Collection"

ARSENAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS | 617.923.0100 | 321 Arsenal St, Watertown | arsenalarts.org | Tues-Sun noon-6 pm | Through Jan 8: Amy Ross, Deborah Brand, and Yuko Adachi: "Biomorphia"

BETH URDANG GALLERY | 617.424.5550 | 129 Newbury St, Boston | bethurdanggallery.com | Tues-Sun 10:30 am-5:30 pm | Through Jan 15: "Black & White: 1915-2010"

BOSTON ATHENAEUM | 617.227.0270 | 10 1/2 Beacon St, Boston | bostonathenaeum.org | Mon 9 am-8 pm; Tues-Fri 9 am-5:30 pm; Sat 9 am-4 pm | Through Jan 8: "Five by Five: Paintings from the Collection"

BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS | 617.933.8600 | 527-551 Tremont St, Boston | bcaonline.org | Wed + Sun noon–5 pm; Thurs-Sat noon–9 pm | Through Jan 2: "Southern Exposure: Artadia Awardees 2009 Atlanta"

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY | 617.536.5400 | 700 Boylston St, Boston | bpl.org | Mon-Thurs 9 am-9 pm; Fri-Sat 9 am-5 pm; Oct-May open Sun 1-5 pm | Through March 31: "Greetings from Boston: Vintage Postcards"

BOSTON SCULPTORS GALLERY | 617.482.7781 | 486 Harrison Ave, Boston | bostonsculptors.com | Wed-Sun noon–6 pm | Jan 5-Feb 6: Joseph Wheelwright: "Love"

BOSTON UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY | 617.353.4672 | 855 Comm Ave, Boston | bu.edu/art | Tues-Fri 10 am-5 pm; Sat-Sun 1-5 pm | Through Jan 16: Harold Reddicliffe: "Paintings from Three Decades"

BROMFIELD GALLERY | 617.451.3605 | 450 Harrison Ave, Boston | bromfieldgallery.com | Wed-Sat noon-5 pm | Jan 5-29: Alvin Case | Ross Normandin | "SOLO 2011 Competition"

CAC GALLERY | 617.349.4380 | 344 Broadway, Cambridge | cambridgema.gov/cac | Mon + Wed 8:30 am-8 pm; Tues + Thurs 8:30 am-5 pm; Fri 8:30 am-noon | Through Feb 18: "Drawing in Public"

CAMBRIDGE ART ASSOCIATION | 617.876.0246 | 25 Lowell St, Cambridge | cambridgeart.org | Lowell St: Tues-Sat 11 am-5 pm; Mount Auburn St: Mon-Fri 9 am-6 pm, Sat 9 am-1 pm | Through Jan 12: "Blue: it's more than a color, metaphor, feeling, idea, or hue" [both galleries]

CHASE YOUNG GALLERY | 617.859.7222 | 450 Harrison Ave #57, Boston | chaseyounggallery.com | Tues-Sat 11 am-6 pm; Sun 11 am-4 pm | Jan 5-30: Bernd Haussmann: "Passages"

DIGITAL SILVER IMAGING | 617.489.0035 | 11 Brighton St, Belmont | digitalsilverimaging.com | Mon-Fri 9 am-5:30 pm | Through Jan 14: Jonathan Stark: "France: Chaleur"

DISTILLERY GALLERY | 978.270.1904 | 516 East Second St, Boston | distilleryboston.com | Mon-Sat 9 am-5 pm | Jan 6-Feb 17: Melanie Blood, Corey Corcoran, and Daniel Szymanowski: "Viva Sputa"

FORT POINT ARTS COMMUNITY GALLERY | 617.423.4299 | 300 Summer St, Boston | fortpointarts.org | Mon-Wed 9 am-3 pm; Thurs-Fri 9 am-9 pm | Jan 6-Feb 25: Jennifer Caine, Jill Grimes, and Rachel Heilmann: "White Matter"

FROM RUSSIA WITH ART | 617.354.2930 | 1977 Mass Ave, Cambridge | fromrussiawithart.org | Wed-Sun 10:30 am-7 pm | Through Jan 31: Alexander Vetrov, Stanislav Nikireev, and Irina Makoveeva | Through Feb 13: Alexander Korman: "en plein air"

GALATEA FINE ART | 617.542.1500 | 460B Harrison Ave, Boston | galateaart.org | Wed-Fri noon-6 pm; Sat-Sun noon-5 pm | Jan 5-30: Hope Ricciardi: "A Century of Genocide" | Jenny Olsen: "White Heat" | Through Dec 30: Katherine Downey Miller: "Moving Through Light"

GALLERY 360 | | Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Ave, Boston | northeastern.edu/northeasterncreates/gallery360 | Mon-Fri 10 am-7 pm | Through March 24: Russell duPont: "On the Streets"

GALLERY AT THE PIANO FACTORY | 617.817.6600 | 791 Tremont St, Boston | galleryatthepianofactory.org | Fri 6-8 pm; Sat-Sun noon-5 pm | Through Jan 2: Allan Rohan Crite: "Christmas in His Neighborhood with a Friend"

GALLERY KAYAFAS | 617.482.0411 | 450 Harrison Ave, Boston | gallerykayafas.com | Tues-Sat 11 am-5:30 pm | Through Jan 15: Brian Doan: "They Aren't Ugly" | "Special Edition Books with Photographs"

GRAND CIRCLE GALLERY | 617.346.6459 | 347 Congress St, Boston | Wed + Fri 11 am-2 pm; Thurs 11 am-7 pm; Sat 11 am-3 pm | Through Jan 15: "Going Places"

GURARI COLLECTIONS | 617.367.9800 | 460 Harrison Ave, Boston | Tues-Sat 11 am-6:30 pm; Sun noon-5 pm or by appointment | Through Jan 15: Joan Brigham: "Automata — Energy in Motion"

HALEY HOUSE BAKERY CAFE | 617.445.0900 | 12 Dade St, Roxbury | haleyhouse.org | Mon-Wed + Fri 7:30 am-4 pm; Thurs 7:30 a m-9 pm; Sat 9 am-3 pm | Through Dec 31: Lolita Parker Jr.: "Time Out: The Good Kind"

HAMILL GALLERY OF TRIBAL ART | 617.734.1577 | 2164 Washington St, Brookline | hamillgallery.com | Thurs-Sat noon-6 pm | Through Dec 30: José Ramón Bas: "Once upon a Time" | Susan Burbridge: "GrocerySak"

HARBORARTS OUTDOOR GALLERY | 256 Marginal St, East Boston | harborarts.net | Open 24 hours | Through Dec 31: "Hazards of Modern Living" Public Art Installation

KINGSTON GALLERY | 617.423.4113 | 450 Harrison Ave, Boston | kingstongallery.com | Wed-Sun noon- 5 pm | Jan 5-30: "Dialogues" | Through Jan 2: Mary Bucci McCoy: "Trace" | Rose Olson: "Waking in the Blue"

LAMONTAGNE GALLERY | 617.464.4640 | 555 East Second St, South Boston | lamontagnegallery.com | Wed-Sat noon-6 pm | Through Jan 15: Boru O'Brien O'Connell: "More Information Has Been Transmitted via the Telegraph" | Meredith James: "The Invention of Morel Pages 81-86"

MIT LIST VISUAL ARTS CENTER | 617.253.4860 | 20 Ames St, Cambridge | web.mit.edu/lvac | Daily noon-6 pm | Through Jan 2: Emily Wardill: "Gamekeepers Without Game" | Frances Stark: "This could become a gimick [sic] or an honest articulation of the workings of the mind" | Melvin Moti: "The Prisoner's Cinema"

MIT MEDIA LAB | 617.253.4431 | 75 Amherst St, Cambridge | Mon-Fri 8:30 am-5 pm | Through Feb 23: Attila Csörgö: "AR — Artistic Research"

MIT ROTCH LIBRARY | 617.258.5590 | 77 Mass Ave, Cambridge | libraries.mit.edu/rotch | Through Jan 28: "Reimagining Gaza and Youth Visions of Jerusalem"

MIT STUDENT CENTER | 617.484.3267 | 34 Mass Ave, Cambridge | Through Dec 31: "Shooting from the Hips, the Eyes, and the Heart"

MONTSERRAT GALLERY | 978.921.4242 | 23 Essex Street, Beverly | montserrat.edu | Through Jan 22: "On Location: Drawing Every Day"

PANOPTICON GALLERY | 617.267.8929 | 502c Comm Ave, Boston | panopticongallery.com | Tues-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm and by appointment | Jan 6-Feb 22: Erik Schubert and Brian Kaplan: "Contemporary Culture" | Through Jan 4: Neal Rantoul: "Twenty-Five Years" | Roger Farrington: "30th Anniversary John Lennon Portfolio"

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY | 617.975.0600 | 832 Comm Ave, Boston | bu.edu/prc | Tues-Fri 10 am-5 pm; Sat-Sun noon-5 pm | Through Jan 9: "Then/Now: Photographs by Carl Chiarenza and Chris Enos"

PROOF GALLERY | 508.963.9102 | 516 East Second St, Boston | proof-gallery.com | Thurs-Sat noon-5 pm and by appointment | Through Jan 29: "Boston Does Boston IV"

PUCKER GALLERY | 617.267.6473 | 171 Newbury St, Boston | puckergallery.com | Mon-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm; Sun 10:30 am-5 pm | Through Jan 10: Chana Orloff: "Sculpture" | | David Sharir: "Sharir's Psalms"

RIVERSIDE GALLERY | 617.547.6811 | 5 Callender St, Cambridge | Mon-Fri 9 am-2 pm; Sun noon-4 pm | Through Jan 9: "Small Works Gallery"

SEAN BOYCE STUDIOS | 508.524.2894 | 162 Newbury St, Boston | seanboycestudios.com | Thurs-Sat noon-5:30pm; Sun noon-5 pm | Through Dec 31: Marc Morin and Sean Boyce: "Concept and Reaction"

SOPRAFINA GALLERY | 617.728.0770 | 55 Thayer St, Boston | Wed-Sat 11 am-5:30 pm or by appointment | Through Dec 31: Dido Thayer: "Reconstructed Landscape"

13FOREST GALLERY | 781.641.3333 | 167A Mass Ave, Arlington | 13forest.com | Tues-Wed + Sat 11 am-7 pm; Thu-Fri 11 am-8 pm | Through Jan 28: "Plenty"

MUSEUMS

CAPE ANN MUSEUM | 978.283.0455 | 27 Pleasant St, Gloucester | capeannmuseum.org | Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm; Sun 1-4 pm | Admission $8; $6 students, seniors, and Cape Ann residents | Through Jan 30: John Manship: "Views of Butman's Quarry" | Through May 28: "To Gather Together and Keep These Bonds"

CHARLES RIVER MUSEUM OF INDUSTRY AND INNOVATION | 781.893.5410 | 154 Moody St, Waltham | Thurs-Sun 10 am-5 pm | Admission $5; $3 students, seniors | Through May 10: "Steampunk: Form and Function"

DANFORTH MUSEUM OF ART | 508.620.0050 | 123 Union Ave, Framingham | danforthmuseum.org | Wed-Thurs + Sun noon-5 pm; Fri-Sat 10 am-5 pm | Admission $11; $9 seniors; $8 students; free to youth under 17 | Through Jan 23: Salley Mavors: "Pocketful of Posies" | Through Feb 6: Brice Marden | Carol Keller: "Erratics in the Wood" | Jules Aarons: "Into the Streets: Photographs from the West End" | Nathan Goldstein | Rhoda Rosenberg: "The Shape of Memory" | Sachiko Akiyama: "Things Unseen"

DECORDOVA SCULPTURE PARK AND MUSEUM | 781.259.8355 | 51 Sandy Pond Rd, Lincoln | decordova.org | Tues-Sun 10 am-5 pm | Admission $12; $8 students, seniors, and youth ages 6-18; free to Lincoln residents and children under 5 | Sculpture park is open during daylight hours and free to the public | Through Jan 9: Leonardo Drew: "Existed" | Martha Friedman: "Rubbers" | Type A: "Barrier" | Through April 23: "Platform 5: Paul Bartow and Richard Metzgar"

FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM | 508.588.6000 | 455 Oak St, Brockton | fullermuseum.org | Tues-Sun 10 am-5 pm; Wed 10 am-9 pm | Admission $8 adults; $5 students, seniors; free for members and children under 12, and for all from 5 to 9 pm on Wed | Through Jan 2: Josh Simpson: "A Visionary Journey in Class" | Through Jan 23: "Photo Clay: In the Picture with Warren Mather" | Through Feb 6: "The New Materiality: Digital Dialogues at the Boundaries of Contemporary Craft" | Through Feb 27: "Different Lines" | Through March 27: John Garrett: "Caravan"

GRIFFIN MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY | 781.729.7158 | 67 Shore Rd, Winchester | griffinmuseum.org | Tues-Thurs 11 am-5 pm; Fri 11 am-4 pm, and on Sat and Sun from noon to 4 pm | Admission $5, $2 for seniors, free for children and students. Free admission on Thurs. | Through Jan 23: Jason Landry: "The Collectors" | Laurie Lambrecht: "From the Studio of Roy Lichtenstein" | Through Jan 30: Harvey Stein: "Artists Observed 1980–1985"

HARVARD ART MUSEUMS | 617.495.9400 | 485 Broadway, Cambridge | harvardartmuseums.org | Tues-Sat 10 am-5 pm | Admission $9; $7 seniors; $6 students | Through Jan 15: "Teaching Galleries" | Ongoing: "Re-View" [overview of works from the Harvard Art Museum's Fogg, Busch-Reisinger, and Arthur M. Sackler museums]

HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY | 617.495.3045 | 26 Oxford St, Cambridge | hmnh.harvard.edu | Daily 9 am-5 pm | Admission $9; $7 seniors; $6 students; free for ages 3 and under; free for Mass residents Sun 9 am–noon | Through Jan 2: "Headgear: The Natural History of Horns and Antlers" | Through May: "The Language of Color" | Ongoing: "The Glass Flowers"

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART | 617.478.3100 | 100 Northern Ave, Boston | icaboston.org | Tues-Wed + Sat-Sun 10 am-5 pm; Thurs-Fri 10 am–9 pm | Admission $15; $10 students, seniors; free for ages under 17; free after 5 pm on "Target Free Thursday Nights" | Through Jan 17: 2010 James and Audrey Foster Prize | Through March 13: Mark Bradford | Through Aug 14: Francesca DiMattio: "Banquet"

MASSACHUSETTS MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART | 413.662.2111 | 87 Marshall St, North Adams | massmoca.org | Wed-Mon 11 am–5 pm | Admission $15; $11 students; $5 ages 6-16; free for ages 5 and under | Through Dec 31: "Disfarmer Photos" | Through Jan 2: Leonard Nimoy: "Secret Selves" | Through Feb 27: "Color Forms I" | Through Feb 28: "Material World: Sculpture to Environment" | Petah Coyne: "Everything That Rises Must Converge" | Through May 1: Jörg Immendorff: "Student of Beuys" | Through Oct 30: Katharina Grosse: "One Floor Up More Highly" | Through March 31, 2012: Federico Diaz: "Geometric Death Frequency-141"

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS | 617.267.6008 | 465 Huntington Ave, Boston | mfa.org | Mon-Tues + Sat-Sun 10 am–4:45 pm; Wed-Fri 10 am–9:45 pm | Admission $20; $18 seniors and students 18 and older; $7.50 children ages seven through 17 weekdays before 3 pm; free to members and children under seven | Through Dec 31: "Preserving History, Making History: The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston" | Through Jan 2: "Under the Skin: Tattoos in Japanese Prints" | Through Jan 16: "Romantic Interludes: Women in Firdawsi's *Shahnama*" | Through Jan 17: "Avedon Fashion 1944-2000" | "Luxuries from Japan: Cultural Exchange in the 17th and 18th Centuries" | Through Feb 13: "Fresh Ink: Ten Takes on Chinese Tradition" | Through Feb 27: "Chinese Master Paintings from the Collection" | Through March 6: "Mirror of Holland: Drawings from the Maida and George Abrams Collection" | Through March 13: "Embroideries of Colonial Boston: Samplers" | Through March 27: "Kristin Baker: New Paintings" | Through May 1: "Heaven and Hell in Japanese Art" | Through May 1: "New Works: Prints, Drawings, Collages" | "Nicholas Nixon: Family Album" | Through May 30: "Millet and Rural France" | Through June 19: "Saaasi: American Couturier" | Through June 25: "Artists Abroad: London, Paris, Venice, and Rome 1825–1925" | Through July 2: "Modernist Photography 1910–1950"

NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS | 617.442.8614 | 300 Walnut Ave, Boston | ncaaa.org | Tues-Sun 1-5 pm | Admission $4; $3 seniors, students | Through Feb 28: Theresa India Young: "Sketches of Ghana"

NEWPORT ART MUSEUM AND ART ASSOCIATION | 401.848.8205 | 76 Bellevue Ave, Newport, RI | newportartmuseum.org | Tues-Sat 10 am-4 pm; Sun noon-4 pm | Admission $10; $8 seniors; $6 students and military personnel with ID; free for children 5 and under | Through Jan 2: "The Abstract of Realism: Gaucher-Thomas, Riley, Simpson" | Through Jan 9: Kim Salerno: "Big Miniature" | "Photographers' Guild Members' Exhibition"

NORMAN ROCKWELL MUSEUM | 413.298.4100 | 9 Glendale Rd, Rte 183, Stockbridge | nrm.org | Weekdays 10 am-4 pm; weekends 10 am- 5 pm | Admission $15; $10 students with ID; $13.50 seniors; free for ages 18 and under when accompanied by an adult | Through May 30: "Witness: The Art of Jerry Pinkney"

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM | 978.744.3390 | 137 Essex St, Salem | pem.org | Tues-Sun and Mon holidays 10 am-5 pm | Admission $15; $13 seniors; $11 students; free for ages 16 and under | Through Dec 31: "Fish, Silk, Tea, Bamboo: Cultivating an Image of China" | Through Jan 2: Mark Ruwedel: "Imprints" | Through Jan 9: "The Emperor's Private Paradise: Treasures from the Forbidden City" | Through April 23: Charles Sandison: "FreePort [No. 001]" | Through May 1: "Eye Spy, Playing with Perception" | Through Jan 1, 2012: "Painting the Modern in India" | Through Jan 16, 2012: "Faces of Devotion, Indian Sculpture from the Figiel Collection" | Through March 1, 2012: "Auspicious Wishes and Natural Beauty in Korean Art" | "Of Gods and Mortals, Traditional Art from India" | Through Sept 30, 2012: "Written on the Waves: Shipboard Logs and Journals"

PEABODY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY | 617.496.1027 | 11 Divinity Ave, Cambridge | peabody.harvard.edu | Daily 9 am-5 pm | Admission $9; $7 students, seniors; free to members, Harvard students, and children under 3; also free to all Massachusetts residents Wed 3-5 pm and Sun 9 am–noon | Through Jan 2: "Spying on the Past: Declassified Satellite Images and Archaeology" | Through March 31: "Masked Festivals of Canton Bo, Southwest Ivory Coast" | Through June 30: "Translating Encounters: Travel and Transformation in the Early Seventeenth Century" | Through July 31: "Digging Veritas: The Archaeology and History of the Indian College and Student Life at Colonial Harvard" | "Storied Walls: Murals of the Americas" | Through Dec 31, 2011: "Wiyohpiyata: Lakota Images of the Contested West"

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN MUSEUM | 401.454.6500 | 224 Benefit St, Providence, RI | risdmuseum.org | Tues-Sun 10 am-5 pm; third Thurs per month until 9 pm | Admission $10; $7 seniors; $3 college students and youth ages 5-18; free every Sun 10 am-1 pm, the third Thurs of each month 5-9 pm, and the last Sat of the month | Through Jan 9: Lynda Benglis | Through Feb 28: Brian Knep: "Exemplar" | "The Figure: Contemporary Works from the Collection" | Through March 10: "Collision" | Through April 16: "Kutch Quilts from South Asia" | "Prints for the Japanese New Year" | Through June 4: "Changing Poses: The Artist's Model" | "From Dover to Penzance: Watercolor Views of the English Channel"

ROSE ART MUSEUM AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY | 781.736.3434 | 415 South St, Waltham | brandeis.edu/rose | Tues-Sun noon-5 pm | Admission $3 | Through May 22: "Regarding Painting"

STERLING AND FRANCINE CLARK ART INSTITUTE | 413.458.2303 | 225 South St, Williamstown | clarkart.edu | Tues-Sun 10 am-5 pm | Free admission | Through March 13: "The Strange World of Albrecht Dürer"

WORCESTER ART MUSEUM | 508.799.4406 | 55 Salisbury St, Worcester | worcesterart.org | Wed-Fri + Sun 11 am-5 pm; Sat 10 am-5 pm; third Thurs of every month 11 am-8 pm | Through March 31: Édouard Manet's "The Dead Toreador"

ART'S NOT DEAD: Boston's most complete guide to what's new at museums, galleries, and beyond scan code or visit http://bit.ly/ArtsNotDead for full museum and gallery listings.

MORE PLAY BY PLAY, INCLUDING BLUE MAN GROUP AND *SHEER MADNESS*, AT THEPHOENIX.COM

_COMPILED BY MADDY MYERS

Play by Play

OPENING

ARTICULATION | Company One presents, in association with First Night, its spoken-word variety show, with "poems and sketches about love, abuse, expectations, racism, violence, betrayal." It's all written and performed by poets and musicians; the current cast includes Danny Balel, Tory Bullock, Michael Cognata, Terri Deletetsky, Marvelyn McFarlane, DJ Reazon, and Nik Walker. | December 31 | Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St, Boston | $15-$18 [First Night button] | firstnight.org

DANCING BEHIND MY EYELIDS | The Interdisciplinary Student Project Initiative at the California Institute of the Arts combines ballet, modern dance, monkey kung fu, Capoeira, acrobatics, French mime, and contact improv in a re-imagining of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Samantha Shay directs, and Chelsea Didier is the choreographer. | January 4-18 | Oberon, 2 Arrow St, Cambridge | $15 | 617.496.8004 or cluboberon.com

THE EFFECT OF GAMMA RAYS ON MAN-IN-THE-MOON MARIGOLDS | Lizette Marie Morris directs this Happy Medium Theatre staging of Paul Zindel's 1964 play about a single mother and her two daughters. Tillie (Caitlyn Conley) is a budding young scientist devoted to her project for the school science fair, but she'll have to deal with her self-centered and emotionally abusive mother, Beatrice (Cassandra Meyer), and her sister, Ruth (Kathryn Lynch), who's on mom's side — at first. With Christina Malanga as both the Nanny and Tillie's science-fair nemesis, Janice Vickery. | January 6-15 | Factory Theatre, 791 Tremont St, Boston | $5-$16 | 617.548.6240 or brownpapertickets.com/event/139994

THE GOAT, OR WHO IS SYLVIA? | Melissa Cogswell directs this Flat Earth Theatre staging of Edward Albee's Tony Award-winning play that questions the ethics surrounding culturally taboo expressions of love via a family man and successful architect who falls in love with a goat. In Albee's hands, this seemingly comic situation comes across as a modern form of Greek tragedy. David Policar stars. | January 7-15 | Arsenal Center for the Arts Black Box, 321 Arsenal St, Watertown | $15-$20; $10 students | 800.838.3006 or flatearththeatre.com

HYSTERIA | Daniel Cidron and the Nora Theatre Company take on Terry Johnson's farce about Sigmund Freud and Salvador Dalí meeting for tea, with John Kuntz as Dalí, Richard Snee as Freud, Stacy Fischer as an attractive young patient seeking Freud's treatment, and Robert Bonotto as Freud's good friend Abraham. | January 6-30 | Central Square Theater, 450 Mass Ave, Cambridge | $40; $30 seniors; $25 students; $15 for youth ages 12-18 | 866.811.4111 or centralsquaretheater.org

THE LAST NIGHT OF BALLYHOO | The Wellesley Summer Theatre Company stages Alfred Uhry's dramedy about an upper-class Jewish family living in Atlanta in 1939. Uhry juxtaposes questions of cultural identity, assimilation, and prejudice with lighter comedic fare as the family look forward to Ballyhoo, a lavish country-club cotillion. Nora Hussey directs. | January 6-30 | Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Wellesley College, 106 Central St, Wellesley | $20; $10 students, seniors | 781.283.2000 or wellesleysummertheatre.com

THE PRETENDER | Filmmaker Aaron Brown and musician Cass McCombs present their multimedia musical collaboration for First Night attendees, a classic morality tale set in the present-day American West. | December 31 | Modern Theatre at Suffolk University, 525 Washington St, Boston | $15-$18 [First Night button] | firstnight.org

RUINED | Liesl Tommy directs the Huntington Theatre staging of Lynn Nottage's Pulitzer-winning drama about a shrewd bar owner and madam named Mama Nadi (Tonye Patano) who uses her business savvy to survive the Congo civil war. The piece's title refers to women raped and assaulted so brutally that they can no longer bear children; society deems them "ruined." | January 7–February 6 | Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave, Boston| $30-$89; $15 student rush | 617.266.0800 or huntingtontheatre.org

A SHAKESPEAREAN CABARET | Commonwealth Shakespeare Company presents a night of songs inspired by Shakespeare, in association with First Night. The evening includes Purcell's "If Music Be the Food of Love," Schubert's "Who Is Sylvia?", Haydn's "She Never Told Her Love," Cole Porter's "I Hate Men!", and Leonard Bernstein's "Tonight." | December 31 | Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St, Boston| $15-$18 (First Night button) | firstnight.org

TRYST | Joe Brancato directs this Merrimack Rep staging of Karoline Leach's Edwardian London thriller about a golddigging con man skilled at seducing and duping wealthy women out of their riches. Our heartless hero's winning streak comes to a halt when he meets a lady who's too quick to fall for his usual tricks. | January 6-30 | Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 East Merrimack St, Lowell | $25-$32 | 978.654.4678 or merrimackrep.org

THE UNDERSTUDY | Larry Coen directs Lyric Stage's Boston premiere of Theresa Rebeck's play about a Hollywood action star attempting to prove his acting chops by starring in a serious Broadway production. Kelby T. Akin plays the former film star, with Christopher James Webb as an out-of-work actor and Laura Latreille as the reluctant stage manager. | January 1-29 | Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon Street, Boston | $25-$52 | 617.585.5678 or lyricstage.com

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NEW YEAR'S EVE? | Kathy St. George presents a one-woman cabaret that will include Great American Songbook classics, Broadway hits, songs made famous by Judy Garland, and her own sketch "*The Wizard of* Oz in Ten Minutes." Jim Rice conducts the band. | December 31 | Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St, Stoneham | $44-$48 | 781.279.2200 or stonehamtheatre.org

NOW PLAYING

THE BLUE FLOWER | This musical, 10 years in the making by husband-and-wife creators Jim and Ruth Bauer and given a gorgeously grungy sheen by the ART, began as a song cycle and grew into a startlingly original amalgam of music, artwork, text, and videography in which the play is definitely *not* the thing. In fact, this near-dialogue-less narrative suggested by the lives and times of German Expressionists Max Beckmann and Franz Marc, "dangerously unpredictable Dada girl" Hannah Höch, and Nobel-winning scientist Marie Curie is pretty wispy. Boy artist meets boy artist, and both fall in love with a beautiful female scientist. She loves the one who dies; the one who lives takes up with a freewheeling female Dadaist who performs a couple of very cool, alienation-happy cabaret numbers. History ensues, and so does jealousy in what is described as a "love rectangle" threading its way through the show. Daniel Jenkins is the deep yet mousy Max, who shuts down after plowing through his bloody war and who responds to the rise of Nazidom by forsaking German for his personal "Maxperanto." As Franz, Lucas Kavner is all stony yearning, teamed with Teal Wicks's Maria on the delicate "Love" or riding the harsh yet lyrical wave of "Franz's War." Maria is perhaps the least developed character, but Wicks brings a mournful sensitivity and gorgeous pipes to the moving ballad "Eiffel Tower." And Meghan McGeary's Hannah snarls her way though some harshly whimsical cabaret setpieces, among them one in which she wears tattered wings while nailing projected bugs with a fly swatter. She may sleep with Max, but she's Dada's girl. | Through January 8 | Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St, Cambridge | $25-$65 | 617.547.8300 or americanrepertorytheater.org

A CHRISTMAS CAROL | Trinity Repertory Company's annual rendition of Charles Dickens's holiday classic stars Mauro Hantman as Scrooge, Richard Williams as Bob Cratchit, Rachael Warren as the Ghost of Christmas Past, Jude Sandy and Joe Wilson Jr. as the Ghosts of Christmas Present, Matt Clevy as Marley, Monica Willey as Fan, and Madeleine Lambert as Belle. No mention of the third Spirit, so we're assuming the Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come will be playing itself. Michael Perlman directs. | Through December 31 | Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St, Providence, RI | $12-$66 | 401.351.4242 or trinityrep.com

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A LIVE RADIO PLAY | Curt Columbus and Tyler Dobrowsky direct this staged radio-play adaptation of Frank Capra's famed holiday film for Trinity Rep. Stephen Berenson, Angela Brazil, Timothy Crowe, Anne Scurria and Fred Sullivan Jr. will play more than 50 characters among them. | Through January 2 | Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St, Providence, RI | $12-$66 | 401.351.4242 or trinityrep.com

JERSEY BOYS | Des McAnuff directs this Broadway Across America tour of the award-winning musical about '60 doo-woppers Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, with Emerson College alum Joseph Leo Bwarie as Frankie Valli. | Through January 30 | Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St, Boston | $43-$167 | 800.982.2787 or bostonscolonialtheatre.com

THE SANTALAND DIARIES | Peter Davenport stars in the one-man show adapted by Joe Mantello from David Sedaris's autobiographical essay about his experience working as a Christmas elf in a Macy's department store. Artistic director Tony Simotes helms the Shakespeare & Company staging. | Through December 30 | Elayne P. Bernstein Theatre, 70 Kemble St, Lenox | $12-$48 | 413.637.3353 or shakespeare.org

STRIKING 12 | This ingeniously conceived but somewhat forced alternative holiday musical is the work of the pop trio GrooveLily, who debuted it in 2002 and continue to perform it. For SpeakEasy Stage Company, which offers the Boston premiere helmed by Scott Sinclair, a trio of local musicians not only tell the story — a mash-up of New Year's Eve bashing and Hans Christian Andersen — but also play GrooveLily. Which makes the show's alleged improvisational element ring false. That said, the cast and some of the songs are likable, and it's hard not to root for a holiday show in which the Tiny Tim figure freezes to death in a fit of hallucinogenic joy. The plot has Grumpy Guy (keyboardist and musical director José Delgado) deciding to bag New Year's Eve despite the admonitions of a party-throwing friend (drummer Zachary Hardy) and stay home "in my stocking feet with an ice-cold beer." There he's visited by a salesperson of full-spectrum holiday lights intended to combat seasonal affective disorder (electric-violinist Erikka Walsh). GrooveLily's Valerie Vigoda and Brendan Milburn collaborated on *Striking 12* with Rachel Sheinkin, who won a Tony for the book of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, so you can expect some cleverness, but the material is so slight that the performers have to push it. Despite their efforts and the presence of all those matches, *Striking 12* does not catch fire. | Through January 2 | Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St, Boston | $25-$55 | 617.933.8600 or bostontheatrescene.com

INDEFINITELY

THE DONKEY SHOW | Diane Paulus & Randy Weiner's disco-set riff on *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is an hour-long work set in the Studio 54-inspired environs of Club Oberon and framed by episodes of *Saturday Night Fever* in which you may or may not choose to star. The *dramatis personae* include Dr. Wheelgood, a gold-lamé-clad Puck on roller skates; club owner Mr. Oberon, who's out to humiliate his haughty diva girlfriend, Tytania; desperately yearning or cockily dismissive lovers Helen, Dimitri, Mia, and Sander; and a twin couple of ruffle-shirted, Afro-coiffed dudes both named Vinnie. Ingeniously double-cast, sexily supple, and screeching into headsets, they join the paying crowd (a small minority of whom occupy tables in a cabaret area that also sees action) for an immersive night of hedonism and hustle driven by the pounding beat and melodramatic passions of disco hits from the 1970s. | Indefinitely | Oberon, 2 Arrow St, Cambridge | $25-$49 | 617.547.8300 or cluboberon.com

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Film

Unless otherwise noted, all film listings this week are for Friday December 31 through Thursday January 6. As always, it's best to call the theater before heading out. For up-to-date film-schedule information, check the *Boston Phoenix* Web site at thephoenix.com.

SUMMER WARS screens at the Museum of Fine Arts.

BOSTON

BOSTON COMMON
175 Tremont St | 617.423.3499
Please call for remaining times
BLACK SWAN | Fri: 11:25 am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:45, 9:35
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER | Fri: 10:45 am, 1:25, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25
THE FIGHTER | Fri: 11:20 am, noon, 2:20, 3:05, 5:10, 6:05, 8, 9
FEI CHENG WU RAO II | Fri: 10:15 am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS 3D | Fri: 10:35 am, 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1 | Fri: 12:50, 4:10, 7:30
HOW DO YOU KNOW | Fri: 10:20 am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45
THE KING'S SPEECH | Fri: 10:50 am, 1:45, 4:40, 7:50
LITTLE FOCKERS | Fri: 10:15 am, 1:10, 4:25, 6:45, 9:40
RABBIT HOLE | Fri: 10:25 am, 12:55, 3:25, 5:40, 7:55
TANGLED | Fri: 11:15 am, 2, 4:30, 6:55
THE TOURIST | Fri: 10:10 am, 12:30, 3, 5:40, 8:15
TRON: LEGACY 3D | Fri: 10:05 am, 1, 4, 7
TRON: LEGACY: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE |
TRUE GRIT | Fri: 10 am, 11:30 am, 12:45, 2:25, 3:30, 5:20, 6:15, 8:05, 9:20
YOGI BEAR 3D | Fri: 10 am, 12:10, 2:30, 5, 7:15, 9:30

FENWAY
201 Brookline Ave | 617.424.6266
BLACK SWAN | 1:10, 3:50, 6:45, 9:40 | Fri-Sat: 12:30 am
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER 3D | 7:30, 10:30 | Fri-Sun: 11:10 am, 1:55, 4:45 | Mon-Thurs: 12:55, 3:45
THE FIGHTER | 7:40, 10:45 | Fri-Sat: 12:35 am
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS 3D | 4:15, 7:20, 9:55 | Fri-Sat: 12:05 am | Fri-Sun: 11:20 am, 1:40 | Mon-Thurs: 1:15
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1 | 1:05, 4:25
HOW DO YOU KNOW | 6:40, 9:45
THE KING'S SPEECH | 12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 10:10
LITTLE FOCKERS | 3:55, 4:30, 7:10, 7:35, 9:50, 10:25 | Fri-Sat: 12:25 am | Fri-Sun: 11:25 am, 1:30, 2 | Mon-Thurs: 12:50, 1:20
TANGLED | 12:10, 3:30
THE TOURIST | 10:55 am, 1:25, 4:05, 6:55, 9:35 | Fri-Sat: 12:15 am
TRON: LEGACY 3D | 3:25, 7, 10 | Fri-Sun: noon | Mon-Thurs: 12:35
TRUE GRIT | 7:25, 10:05 | Fri-Sat: 12:35 am | Fri-Sun: 11 am, 1:45, 4:35 | Mon-Thurs: 1:30, 4:10
YOGI BEAR 3D | 4, 6:35, 9:30 | Fri-Sat: midnight | Fri-Sun: 11:30 am, 1:35 | Mon-Thurs: 1

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Omni Theatre, Science Park, Boston | 617.723.2500 | $7.50, $5.50 for ages 3-11 and seniors: Tues-Wed 7 pm or later, $5, $3 for ages 3-11 and seniors
Please call for times
ADRENALINE RUSH: THE SCIENCE OF RISK
ARABIA
AUSTRALIA: LAND BEYOND TIME
THRILL RIDE: THE SCIENCE OF FUN
WHALES

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Simons IMAX Theatre, Central Wharf, Boston | 866.815.IMAX | $12, $10 for ages 3-11 and seniors
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HUBBLE 3-D
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UNDER THE SEA 3-D

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RACE TO NOWHERE
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THE FIGHTER
HOW DO YOU KNOW
LITTLE FOCKERS
TRON: LEGACY IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D

COOLIDGE CORNER
290 Harvard St | 617.734.2500
BLACK SWAN | noon, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10 [no Fri]
I LOVE YOU PHILLIP MORRIS | 11:45 am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 [no Fri]
THE LEGEND OF PALE MALE | 12:10, 2:20, 4:40, 7
THE KING'S SPEECH | 11:30 am, 2, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45 [no Fri]
MADE IN DAGENHAM | Sat-Thurs: 9:15

CAMBRIDGE

BRATTLE
40 Brattle St, Harvard Square | 617.876.6837
PHANTOM OF THE PARADISE | Fri: 5, 7, 9
A NIGHT IN CASABLANCA | Sat: noon, 5:45
A NIGHT AT THE OPERA | Sat: 1:30, 7:30
A DAY AT THE RACES | Sat: 3:30, 9:30
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL (1951) | Sun: 3:15, 7:30
PLANET OF THE APES (1961) | Sun: 5:15, 9:30
CINECACHÉ: TBA | Mon: 8
CLUNY BROWN | Tues: 5, 7, 9
THE SOUND OF MUSIC | Wed: 7:30
HEIDI | **Wed: 3:30, 5:30**
THE PRINCESS BRIDE | **Thurs: 5:15, 9:30**
YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN (TENTATIVE) | **Thurs: 7:15**

FRESH POND
168 Alewife Brook Parkway | 617.661.2900
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER IN DIGITAL 3D | 1, 3:45, 6:45, 9:20
THE FIGHTER | 1, 4, 7:05, 7:45, 9:40
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS 3D | 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
MEGAMIND | 1:05, 3:10
TANGLED | 1:40, 4:30, 7
THE TOURIST | 1:20, 4:45, 7:25, 10
TRUE GRIT | 1:15, 4:15, 5:15, 7:20, 9:50
UNSTOPPABLE | 9:40
YOGI BEAR | 1:15, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:20
YOGI BEAR 3D | 12:45, 2:45, 4:45, 7, 9

HARVARD SQUARE
10 Church St | 617.864.4580
THE FIGHTER | 1, 4, 7, 9:50 | Sat-Sun: 10 am
HOW DO YOU KNOW | 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10 | Sat-Sun: 10:30 am
LITTLE FOCKERS | 2, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30 | Sat-Sun: 11 am
TRON: LEGACY IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D | 1:15, 4:10, 7:10, 10 | Sat-Sun: 10:15 am
TRUE GRIT | 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20 | Sat-Sun: 10:45 am
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW | Sat: 12:30 am

KENDALL SQUARE
1 Kendall Square | 617.499.1996
ALL GOOD THINGS | 1:30, 4:10, 6:55 [no Mon], 9:40 [no Fri] | Sat-Sun: 11:05 am
RABBIT HOLE | 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50 [no Fri] | Sat-Sun: 11:15 am
BLACK SWAN | 1:05, 1:45, 4:20, 6:15, 7, 9:35 [no Fri] | Sat-Sun: 11:05 am
INSIDE JOB | 1:20, 6:45 [no Thurs]
THE KING'S SPEECH | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6:45, 9 [no Fri], 9:30 [no Fri] | Sat-Sun: 11 am, noon, 8

127 HOURS | 3:45, 9:10 [no Fri]
RARE EXPORTS: A CHRISTMAS TALE | 4:40, 9:35 [no Fri] | Sat-Sun: 11:25 am
SOMEWHERE | 1:35, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45 [no Fri] | Sat-Sun: 11:10 am

SUBURBS

ARLINGTON
Capitol, 204 Mass Ave | 781.648.4340
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1 | 4:15, 7:45 | Fri-Sun: 1:15
HOW DO YOU KNOW | 4:45, 7:30 | Fri-Sun: 1:45 | Sat: 10
LITTLE FOCKERS | 5:15, 7:30 | 5:15, 7:40 | Fri-Sun: 12:45, 3 | Sat: 9:50
LOVE & OTHER DRUGS | 4:30 | Fri-Sun: 1:10 | Sat: 9:40
THE SOCIAL NETWORK | 7:10
TRON: LEGACY IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D | 4, 5, 7, 8 | Fri-Sun: 1, 2 | Sat: 9:45

BEVERLY
Cabot St Cinema, 286 Cabot St | 978.927.3677
RED | Thurs-Sat, Mon: 5:30, 8 | Sat: 2 | Mon: 11 am
MORNING GLORY | Tues-Thurs: 5:30, 8 | Wed: 11 am, 2

BRAINTREE
AMC X, South Shore Plaza | 781.848.1070
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER IN DIGITAL 3D | 10:50 am, 1:50, 4:50 | Fri-Sat: 7:40, 10:25 | Sun-Thurs: 7:35, 10:15
THE FIGHTER | 10:15 am, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS | 10:10 am, 12:20, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1 | 12:45, 6:45
HOW DO YOU KNOW | 10 am, 3:55, 10
LITTLE FOCKERS | 10 am, 12:30, 3, 5:30 | Fri-Sat: 8, 10:35 | Sun-Thurs: 7:55, 10:20
TANGLED | 11:10 am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:05, 9:40
THE TOURIST | 11:30 am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50
TRON: LEGACY IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D | 10:05 am, 1, 4, 7, 10:10
TRUE GRIT | 10:20 am, 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 10:05
YOGI BEAR | 10:05 am, 12:35, 2:50, 5:15, 7:45, 9:55

BURLINGTON
AMC X, Middlesex Turnpike, off Rte 128 Exit 32B | 781.229.9200
Please call to confirm bookings and for times
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER
THE FIGHTER
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1
HOW DO YOU KNOW
LITTLE FOCKERS
TANGLED
THE TOURIST
TRON: LEGACY IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D
TRUE GRIT
YOGI BEAR

DEDHAM
Community Theatre, 580 High St | 781.326.0409
Please call to confirm bookings and for times
THE KING'S SPEECH

FRAMINGHAM
AMC XV, 22 Flutie Pass, off Worcester Rd, Rte 9 | 508.628.4400
Please call to confirm bookings and for times
BLACK SWAN
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER IN DIGITAL 3D
THE FIGHTER
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1
HOW DO YOU KNOW
THE KING'S SPEECH
LITTLE FOCKERS
TANGLED
THE TOURIST
TRON: LEGACY
TRON: LEGACY IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D
TRUE GRIT
YOGI BEAR
YOGI BEAR 3D

HINGHAM
Loring Hall Cinema, 65 Main St | 781.749.1400
Please call to confirm bookings and for times
BLACK SWAN
THE KING'S SPEECH

LEXINGTON
Lexington Venue, 1794 Mass Ave | 781.861.6161 | $9, $7 seniors
Please call to confirm bookings and for times
BLACK SWAN
THE FIGHTER

MAYNARD
Fine Arts Theatre, 19-21 Summer St | 978.897.8100
Please call to confirm bookings and for times
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS
LITTLE FOCKERS
TRUE GRIT

NEWBURYPORT
Screening Room, 82 State St | 978.462.3456
TAMARA DREWE | Fri-Sat: 6, 8:45 | Sat: 3:15 | Sun-Thurs: 7:30 | Sun: 4:45

NEWTON
West Newton Cinema, 1296 Washington St | 617.964.6060
BLACK SWAN | 1:15, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40 | Fri-Sun: 10:40 am
FAIR GAME | 7:30
INSIDE JOB | 3:35, 8:35
MAO'S LAST DANCER | 1, 6:05
NORA'S WILL | 1:30, 3:45, 6:20, 8:30 | Fri-Sun: 11:05 am
TANGLED | 12:50, 2:45 | Fri-Sun: 11 am
MEGAMIND | Fri-Sun: 11 am
TODAY'S SPECIAL | 5
TRUE GRIT | **12:55, 2, 3:40, 4:45, 6, 7:45, 8:40 | Fri-Sun: 10:30 am**

RANDOLPH
Showcase Cinema, Rte 139 | 781.963.5600
Please call to confirm bookings and for times
BLACK SWAN
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER
THE FIGHTER
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS 3D
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1
HOW DO YOU KNOW
LITTLE FOCKERS
MEGAMIND
TANGLED
THE TOURIST
TRONG: LEGACY
TRON: LEGACY IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D
TRON: LEGACY: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE
TRUE GRIT
YOGI BEAR
YOGI BEAR 3D

REVERE
Showcase Cinema, Rte 1 and Squire Rd | 781.286.1660
Please call to confirm bookings and for times
BLACK SWAN
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER
THE FIGHTER
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS 3D
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1
HOW DO YOU KNOW
THE KING'S SPEECH
LITTLE FOCKERS
MEGAMIND
TANGLED
THE TOURIST
TRON: LEGACY
TRON: LEGACY IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D
TRUE GRIT
YOGI BEAR
YOGI BEAR 3D

SALEM
Museum Place Cinemas, Church St at East India Square | 978.744.3700
Please call to confirm bookings and for times
FOUR LIONS
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1
LITTLE FOCKERS
TRON: LEGACY

SOMERVILLE THEATRE
55 Davis Square | 617.625.5700
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1 | 3:20, 6:30 | Fri-Sun: 12:30
HOW DO YOU KNOW | 4:30, 7:10 | Fri-Sun: 1:30 | Sat: 9:40
LITTLE FOCKERS | 5:15, 7:30 | Fri-Sun: 12:40, 3 | Sat: 9:45
LOVE & OTHER DRUGS | 3:15 | Fri-Sun: 12:40
THE SOCIAL NETWORK | 7:15 | Sat: 9:50
TRON: LEGACY | 3:30, 7 | Fri-Sun: 12:45 | Sat: 9:45

WALTHAM
Embassy Cinema, 16 Pine St | 781.736.7852
THE FIGHTER | Fri-Sun: 1:30, 4:15, 7 | Sat-Sun: 9:35 | Mon-Thurs: 2:20, 5, 7:40
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1 | Fri-Sun: 1 | Mon-Thurs: 2
HOW DO YOU KNOW | Fri-Sun: 3:45, 6:30 | Mon-Thurs: 5
THE KING'S SPEECH | Fri-Sun: 1:10, 3:55, 6:40 | Sat-Sun: 9:20 | Mon-Thurs: 2:10, 4:50, 8
LITTLE FOCKERS | Fri: 1:50, 4:35, 7:20 | Sat-Sun: 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:25 | Mon-Thurs: 2:40, 5:10, 8:20
THE SOCIAL NETWORK | Fri-Sun: 4:05, 6:50 | Sat-Sun: 9:30 | Mon-Thurs: 5:10, 7:50
THE TOURIST | Fri-Sun: 1:20 | Sat-Sun: 9:15 | Mon-Thurs: 2:30, 8:10

WEYMOUTH
Cameo Theatre, Columbia Square, South Weymouth | 781.335.2777
HOW DO YOU KNOW
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1
TANGLED

WOBURN
Showcase, Main St, Middlesex Canal Park | 781.933.5330
BLACK SWAN | 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55 | Fri-Sat: 12:20 am
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER IN DIGITAL 3D | 1:35, 4:15, 6:50, 9:10 | Fri-Sat: 11:40
THE FIGHTER | 1:20, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05 | Fri-Sat: 12:45 am
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS | 12:25, 2:40, 5, 7:15, 9:30 | Fri-Sat: 11:45
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1 | 3:50, 7, 10:15
HOW DO YOU KNOW | 12:45, 3:45, 6:40, 9:35 | Fri-Sat: 12:15 am
THE KING'S SPEECH | 1, 3:55, 6:45, 9:25, | Fri-Sat: 12:10 am
LITTLE FOCKERS | 11:50 am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40 | Fri-Sat: midnight
TANGLED | 11:45 am, 2:15, 4:35, 6:55
THE TOURIST | 12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 10:20, | Fri-Sat: 12:40 am
TRON: LEGACY | 9:15, | Fri-Sat: 12:05 am
TRON: LEGACY IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D | 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:45 | Fri-Sat: 12:35 am
TRUE GRIT | 1:25, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50 | Fri-Sat: 12:25 am
YOGI BEAR | 11:25 am, 11:55 am, 1:30, 2, 4:30, 6:35, 8:40 | Fri-Sat: 10:50

FILM SPECIALS

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston | 617.536.5400 | Free admission
EAT PRAY LOVE | Thurs: 2 [Never Too Late Group]

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave, Boston | 617.369.3300 | $9: $8 students, seniors
CYBER | Fri: call for time [First Night Film Program]
LIFELINE | Fri: call for time [First Night Film Program]
MIRIAM'S BROKEN TRAIN | Fri: call for time [First Night Film Program]
INCIDENT AT A BANK | Fri: call for time [First Night Film Program]
NEXT FLOOR | Fri: call for time [First Night Film Program]

NORTH END BRANCH LIBRARY
25 Parmenter St, Boston | 617.227.8135 | Free admission
THE LAVENDER HILL MOB | Wed: 6

SOUTH BOSTON BRANCH LIBRARY
646 East Broadway, South Boston | 617.268.0180 | Free admission
VENGEANCE VALLEY | Tues: 1 [Way Out West Film Series]
DR. NO | Thurs: 6 [Bond, James Bond Film Series]

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Film

CAPSULE REVIEWS

OUR RATING

Masterpiece	⊕⊕⊕⊕
Good	⊕⊕⊕
Okay	⊕⊕
Not Good	⊕
Stinks	⊖

A

⊕⊕⊖ **ALL GOOD THINGS | 2010** | One thing is clear from Andrew Jarecki's account of the mysterious career of David Marks (Ryan Gosling): David should never have left the Vermont country store of the title, which he and his wife, Katie (Kirsten Dunst), established to escape his slumlord father (Frank Langella). But thanks in part to Jarecki's fractured chronology, everything else is up in the air in this adaptation of the true story of Robert Durst, troubled scion of a wealthy Manhattan family. Like, how did David go from wearing a tuxedo when first meeting Katie to wearing a dress in a rooming house while evading several murder raps? Jarecki didn't have all the answers in his brilliant documentary *Capturing the Friedmans* (2003), either, but in that effort, ambiguity was a virtue. In his first fictional feature, he can't decide whether to opt for the open-ended inquiry of a non-fiction film or the resolved storytelling of Hollywood genre movie, so he winds up stranded in between. | 101m | Kendall Square

B

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **BLACK SWAN | 2010** | Darren Aronofsky's bizarre and brilliant symphony of opposites comes loaded with enough mirrors and scenery chewing to fill a Douglas Sirk film festival, and its *Red Shoes*-like balletic effusions flare into horror-movie metamorphoses. Natalie Portman puts in her best work to date as Nina, the exquisite, porcelain beauty of a ballerina whose driving desire — instilled in her by the ultimate stage mother (Barbara Hershey), — is to dance Odette/Odile in her company's production of *Swan Lake*. The artistic director, Thomas (Vincent Cassel), who's a sexual-harassment lawsuit waiting to happen, sees her as fine for the White Swan half of this dual role, but as for the id-like Black Swan, he isn't so sure. Enter new-dancer-in-town Lily (Mila Kunis as the brash, almost blowzy antithesis of Nina), who, when Nina is having a *Mommie Dearest* run-in with her mother, offers her an opportunity to escape to a wild night of roofies and girl-on-girl sex. The idea that the good girl and her naughty alter ego need to meet and greet would seem a sophomoric formulation if Aronofsky didn't make it palpably real, and if the rhythms and the mood of the editing and the images were not so incantatory. | 103m | Boston Common + Fenway + Kendall Square + Coolidge Corner + West Newton + suburbs

C

⊕⊕ **THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER | 2010** | How are the kids going to take to preachy C.S. Lewis after the pagan Harry Potter and the titillating *Twilight*? Michael Apted's adaptation of the third of the Christian apologist's seven-book series about a world where youngsters can have adventures and learn their lessons stirs up some of the magic of the original, and it even brought a tear to this apostate's eye with its scenes of pathos and redemption. For the most part, though, the film is rote and humorless and muddied by perfunctory 3D. The two youngest Pevensie siblings, Edmund (Skandar Keynes) and Lucy (Georgie Henley), are whisked back to Narnia along with the token cowardly skeptic, their cousin Eustace (Will Poulter). There they join King Caspian (Ben Barnes) of the previous film in a search for seven swords from seven lords. It's kind of like looking for the Horcruxes in *The Deathly Hallows*, but not as much fun. | 115m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Chestnut Hill + suburbs

D

⊕⊕⊕ **THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL | 1951** | When a flying saucer lands in Washington, terrified locals assume the otherworldly visitors are gearing up for an invasion. Silly earthlings: the creatures have come to make peace! The special effects in this sci-fi melodrama are far from extravagant, but the movie's sweet, even-tempered tone takes the edge off the usual '50s invasion paranoia. With Patricia Neal (who delivers the immortal "Klaatu barada nikto" message) and, as the friendly Martian, Michael Rennie. Robert Wise directed, Bernard Herrmann provided the score. | b&w | 92m | Brattle: Sun

⊕⊕⊖ **DR. NO | 1962** | Although Sean Connery as 007, Bernard Lee as M, and Lois Maxwell as Miss Moneypenny are already installed in the first James Bond film (Desmond Llewelyn's Q doesn't show up till *From Russia with Love*), the sensibility is a little crude (the series's sadism kicked in right off the bat) and Bond's macho a little obvious. When another British Secret Service agent is killed, Bond is sent to the West Indies, where Felix Leiter (Jack Lord) and Quarrel (John Kitzmiller) help out in his pursuit of the fiendish Dr. No (Joseph Wiseman) but he's on his own when it comes to the swimmingly attired Ursula Andress (as Honey Ryder). We'd have recommended he stay home with Eunice Gayson's fetching Sylvia Trench; alas, she bowed out after *From Russia with Love*. Terence Young directs. | 110m | South Boston Branch Library: Thurs

F

⊕⊕⊕ **FAIR GAME | 2010** | Doug Liman's potent, sometimes infuriating dramatization of "Plamegate" has Sean Penn and Naomi Watts creating attractive, smart, sympathetic characters whose careers and marriage are strained to the breaking point but who, in true Capra-esque fashion, adhere to their values and their integrity. Vouched for by his wife, Valerie Plame (Watts), foreign-service diplomat Joseph Wilson (Penn) is sent to Niger to confirm the report that that country is selling uranium to Iraq. Despite his conclusion that the report is bogus, President Bush asserts it as fact in an address to the UN, and then Karl Rove and company out Plame as a CIA agent in retribution for her husband's action. The media pretty much bought it all, so no credit to them that it takes a Hollywood movie to get out another side of the story. But Kudos to Liman and his cast for transforming the kind of political meat and potatoes Americans generally ignore into the kind of engaging entertainment they enjoy. It all ends in the inevitable rousing speeches, but until then, this game is played fair. | 106m | West Newton + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **THE FIGHTER | 2010** | This David O. Russell effort triumphs as a crowd-pleasing underdog fight flick, but it really connects as a horrible and hilarious deconstruction of family values gone nuclear. Played by Mark Wahlberg (outstanding in a tough, understated role), light-welterweight "Irish" Micky Ward — the Pride of Lowell, Massachusetts — must endure the tyranny of his mom and ad hoc manager, Alice (Melissa Leo), who makes the crime-family matriarch of *Animal Kingdom* look like a den mother, and his seven harridan sisters. Then there's Micky's revered half-brother Dicky (in a tour de force performance by Christian Bale), the previous Pride of Lowell, who's apt to get wasted with his fellow addicts when he's supposed to be working Micky's corner. Micky's new sweetheart, local bargirl Charlene (Amy Adams), wants him to break with the folks and take up an offer from a legit promoter. Can Micky save his career, marry Charlene, and still not lose the kinship and inspiration of Dicky, the seven sisters, and Alice? It might sound like *Raging Bull* all over again, but Russell's version is more theater of the absurd than grand opera. And the boxing sequences can't compete with Scorsese's. In fact, Russell is so engrossed in the family circus that you're surprised whenever the boxing movie breaks out. Maybe that's why, though ending on a high note, the film just seems to come to a stop. All that *The Fighter* needs to score a knockout is a strong last round. | 114m | Boston Common + Fenway + Harvard Square + Fresh Pond + Chestnut Hill + Embassy + suburbs

G

⊕ **GULLIVER'S TRAVELS | 2010** | Jonathan Swift's epitaph reads, "Where savage indignation can no longer lacerate his breast." Rob Letterman's adaptation of the great man's satire might nonetheless have him spinning in his grave. In a world where Swift appears never to have existed, Lemuel Gulliver (Jack Black) is a mailroom clerk for "The New York Tribune." He'd be happy to be one of the "little people," except that he has a crush on Darcy (Amanda Peet), the travel editor. To impress her, he submits some — appropriately — plagiarized writing samples and gets assigned to the Bermuda Triangle. There, he ends up in Lilliput, the land of little people, where he becomes a big shot, transforming the kingdom into a Times Square where every neon sign bears his leering image. Hubris, in other words. Then he learns his lesson: be yourself, or something. A side trip to Brobdingnag offers a Swiftian kick, but this travesty is so pitiful, it isn't even worth being indignant. | 85m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + suburbs: opens Sat

H

⊕⊕⊕ **HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS PART 1 | 2010** | In his third foray into the franchise (he also directs the upcoming conclusion, *The Deathly Hallows Part 2*) David Yates replaces the baroque wonders of Hogwarts with a greasy tent in barren landscapes, exchanging occasionally threatening whimsy for relentless dread, degradation, and torture. Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes) has killed Dumbledore (Michael Gambon), the magical world now resembles Stalinist Russia as seen in a Pink Floyd music video, and Harry (Daniel Radcliffe), Hermione (Emma Watson), and Ron (Rupert Grint) are on the run, in search of the seven Horcruxes from *The Half-Blood Prince*, talismans containing Voldemort's fragmented soul — so of course their negative energy makes our heroes' task that much harder. The film can seem talky and overdetermined and burdened with its million-word backstory. But then it'll reward your patience and depression with an image that's almost visionary — Harry being guided by a patronus (they're kind of like the dæmons in Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials*) in the form of a deer, or the tiny tent seen from high above lost in the endless windings of a rocky wasteland. This is one movie in which the natural effects exceed the special kind. And then other moments stand out because of their simple humanity, scenes in which loved ones are united or lost. Those are the most magical moments of all. | 145m | Boston Common + Fenway + Somerville Theatre + Embassy + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **HEIDI | 1937** | Shirley Temple plays the heroine in this all-time classic, a 19th-century Swiss-set children's tearjerker. Dimpled little Heidi is taken from her kindly, white-bearded grandfather (actor Jean Hersholt, he of the Oscars' Humanitarian Award) to live with the not-so-kindly Fräulein Rottenmeir (Mary Nash). Direction is by the enormously prolific Allan Dwan, who made more than 100 features; here he adds a bunch of funny gags to lighten what seemed to him a story as cruel as *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. | b&w | 88m | Brattle: Wed

⊕⊕ **HOW DO YOU KNOW | 2010** | It's strange that James L. Brooks should take so long to make his movies (this is his first since 2004's *Spanglish*, and only his sixth since his Oscar-winning debut, 1983's *Terms of Endearment*), since he started out writing for TV shows like *That Girl* and *My Mother the Car*. It's even more disappointing that he still mines the easy jokes, pandering sentimentality, and predictability of sit-coms. Where's the Brooks of *Broadcast News*? Here, Paul Rudd is so likable as unemployed investor George that, even though he's broke, on the rebound, and the target of a federal investigation, you never doubt he'll end up with Lisa (Reese Witherspoon), a pro softball player just cut from her team. Besides, Lisa has no chemistry with Matty (Owen Wilson), the "essentially monogamous" pitcher she's dating. The thing is, if George takes the fall for his corrupt father (Jack Nicholson), he'll save dad from "25 years to death," but he'll lose Lisa. Six years in the making and this is *As Good As It Gets*? | 120m | Boston Common + Fenway + Harvard Square + Somerville Theatre + Chestnut Hill + Embassy + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

I

⊕⊕⊖ **I LOVE YOU PHILLIP MORRIS | 2009** | Only in the last half-hour of *I Love You Phillip Morris* does it click that this really is the gritty, true tale of king conman Steven Russell (Jim Carrey) and his jailbird lover, Phillip Morris (Ewan McGregor). For the first three-quarters of the movie, the characters — though multi-dimensional — are trapped in an alternative Forrest Gump reality where Texas prison life is fun if you enjoy giving

NICE SHOT | Jeff Bridges doesn't need two eyes to get the bad guys in *True Grit*.

blowjobs. Only vaguely accurate in detail, *Phillip Morris* depicts Russell, who is now serving a life sentence, transforming from a happily married but closeted Christian cop into a South Beach player who realizes that being gay is really expensive, so he uses his genius wit to run scams of dirty rotten proportions. This film will garner attention as a sunny gay romance, and that's unfortunate. It would have worked much better as a dirty drama about the most toxic non-violent criminal in Texas history. | 98m | Coolidge Corner

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **INSIDE JOB | 2010** | Although *Inside Job* is destined for Academy acclaim, it seems unlikely that anyone will actually enjoy Charles Ferguson's new documentary. Regardless of your spot in the food chain, it's the feel-bad film of the year. In this comprehensive account of how a few whiteboys looted planet Earth and stole away in custom jets, Ferguson attaches names and faces to the global economic meltdown — and even puts the screws to some scumbags who did the screwing. As a bonus for folks who will claim they already understand what happened, he also digs deep into America's toxic economic climate, showing how Harvard and other top business schools are compromised by foolhardy free-market zealots. *Inside Job* won't incite thousands of righteous martyrs to march into downtown Manhattan armed with clubs and bats — but it should. | 108m | Kendall Square + West Newton

K

⊕⊕ **THE KING'S SPEECH | 2010** | Given that England's George III ran around pissing blue from porphyry, his great-great-great grandson, George VI, got off pretty easy with just a stutter. And certainly Nicholas Hytner's *The Madness of King George* (1994) is a lot more substantive than this precious bid for kneejerk Oscars. No doubt Colin Firth will get at least a nomination for his portrayal of the title monarch, who finds himself on the throne and in front of a radio microphone when his bullying father, George V, dies and his elder brother, Edward VII (Guy Pearce), abdicates for the love of a not-so-good woman. Likewise, Geoffrey Rush will get a nod as Lionel Logue, the Australian speech therapist without portfolio or good breeding who uses unorthodox methods to whip George VI into shape when the Nazis threaten to invade. The message from director Tom Hooper (*The Damned United*) seems to be that neither birth nor background nor any other qualification matters when you're leading the country — or treating those who do. | 118m | Boston Common + Fenway + Kendall Square + Coolidge Corner + Embassy [opens Sat] + suburbs

L

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **THE LAVENDER HILL MOB | 1950** | Alec Guinness is a timorous bank employee who spends 20 honest years transporting gold bullion before he decides to make off with some, shipping it out of England as Eiffel Tower paperweights. Along with *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, this delightful caper comedy is the movie that made Guinness an international star, and he's wonderful, as are Stanley Holloway, Sidney James, and Alfie Bass as his rag-tag gang. Charles Crichton directed. Look fast in the opening scene and you'll see a young Audrey Hepburn as one of Guinness's admirers. | b&w | 78m | North End Branch Library: Wed

⊕⊕ **THE LEGEND OF PALE MALE | 2009** | Frederic Lilien fled a career he would have hated as a lawyer in his father's firm in Belgium to land in New York . . . and do what? How about spending 20 years of your life making a documentary about a red-tailed hawk who in the early 1990s relocated to Manhattan, nesting on the ledge of a Fifth Avenue high-rise and scouring Central Park for pigeons and rats. The hawk, named Pale Male by the many humans who followed his career by telescope and camera, became a Big Apple celeb as he mated with various female hawks and raised his baby chicks. Pale Male's story turned into a major media event when the Grinch-like co-op board of directors at 927 Fifth Avenue tore down the nest. All of the above is fairly interesting and quietly touching, but Lilien's telling of the tale via voiceover is corny and overwrought and way too sentimental. This one's strictly for the birdwatchers. | 85m | Coolidge Corner

⊕ **LITTLE FOCKERS | 2010** | *Mean Streets*, *Taxi Driver*, and . . . *Little Fockers*? Robert De Niro and Harvey Keitel are reunited after 34 years, and all we get is a lame Keitel cameo? At least Dustin Hoffman, citing concerns over the script, had the good sense not to reprise his role from Jay Roach's *Meet the Fockers* (2004). But wait! Early in this humorless sequel, Greg Focker (Ben Stiller) is on the phone with his mom, Roz (Barbra Streisand), when dad Bernie (Hoffman) joins the conversation from Seville. That's right, Hoffman actually does phone in his performance in what is a money grab for everyone, new director Paul Weitz (*American Dreamz*) included. Nurse Greg secretly moonlights by promoting an erectile-dysfunction drug to pay for his twins' education, and that raises the eyebrows of ailing father-in-law Jack (De Niro), who was looking to Greg to succeed him in the patriarchal role of "Godfocker." In the end, though, it's the limp comedy that needs a shot of "Sustengo." | 106m | Boston Common + Fenway + Harvard Square + Somerville Theatre + Chestnut Hill + Embassy + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊙ **LOVE & OTHER DRUGS | 2010** | In a movie about erectile dysfunction and terminal illness, you don't expect subtlety. Nonetheless, in his adaptation of Jamie Reidy's *Hard Sell: The Evolution of a Viagra Salesman*, Ed Zwick mixes smarm and sentimentality. Jake Gyllenhaal's cocky Jamie starts out as a salesman in an electronics store, and in between selling gullible customers shoddy products, he shtups the female help. This leads to an untidy dismissal and a new job selling Pfizer drugs that takes off when the little blue pill is marketed. Along the way, he bonds with a sleazy doctor (Hank Azaria), and they seem like a couple of funny guys who just happen to be exploiting human misery — kind of like Aaron Eckhart's character in *Thank You for Smoking*. Anne Hathaway sheds her nice-girl image (along with her clothes) as Jamie's girlfriend, Maggie, providing Jamie with self-sacrificing moments when she starts ailing. | 113m | Somerville Theatre + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

M

⊕⊕⊙ **MADE IN DAGENHAM | 2010** | Back in the '60s, a ragtag lot of seamstresses at the Ford Dagenham auto plant in East London cast a rock at the glass ceiling by demanding equal pay. The strike that followed became an international spectacle involving union heads, the British Labour Office, and the Ford brass across the pond in Detroit — all making a lively backdrop for this cheeky docudrama by Nigel Cole (*Calendar Girls*). The Norma Rae–esque heroics of Rita O'Grady (Sally Hawkins) take center stage as she rises up from meek upholsterer to become the fiery leader of her fellow female employees. It's all very rousing, but O'Grady's transformation and the impetus for the dispute/strike erupt out of nowhere. Nonetheless, Hawkins, so fantastic in Mike Leigh's *Happy Go Lucky*, gives another award-worthy performance, and Bob Hoskins and Miranda Richardson provide adroit back-up as the union floor rep and the British Labour minister. | 113m | Coolidge Corner

⊕⊕⊕ **MAO'S LAST DANCER | 2009** | Bruce Beresford may here be closer to the manipulative *Driving Miss Daisy* (1989) than to his earlier masterpieces of emotional restraint, *Breaker Morant* (1980) and *Tender Mercies* (1983) — but he gets good performances from his cast. There's Chi Cao, a principal at Birmingham Royal Ballet, in his screen debut; there's Joan Chen (*The Last Emperor*) as a long-suffering mother. And, especially, there's Bruce Greenwood (*The Sweet Hereafter*) in a tricky role as Houston Ballet artistic director Ben Stevenson — he has a touch of the ol' Mao in him. Working from Jan (*Shine*) Sardi's straightforward adaptation of Li Cunxin's autobiography, Beresford imagines a baldly inspiring tale of the exile's life, from poverty in China to fame and fortune in the US after a dramatic defection in the early '80s. "I dance better here . . . feel more free," says Li. Watching Chi soar through the air, you believe it. | English + Mandarin | 117m | West Newton

⊕⊕⊙ **MEGAMIND | 2010** | Did you like Universal's *Despicable Me* and its computer-animated 3D tale of a misunderstood criminal mastermind? Well, then, you're in luck: DreamWorks' latest computer-animated 3D release — which deals with the exploits of a misunderstood supervillain named Megamind (voiced by Will Ferrell) — is basically the same film, with a twisted take on the Superman/Lex Luthor dynamic. Keep in mind, Pixar mined the superhero genre far better six years ago with *The Incredibles*, and DreamWorks itself is capable of superior fare like this past summer's *How To Train Your Dragon*. Still, if celebrity voices (there's also Brad Pitt as vain hero Metro Man, Tina Fey as the Lois Lane–like Roxanne Ritchi, and Jonah Hill as the Jimmy Olsen-like dork Hal Stewart) and an excess of licensed pop music are your thing, you might forgive the lack of ambition here as director Tom McGrath (*Madagascar*) treads familiar territory. | 96m | Fresh Pond + West Newton [Sun-Thurs] + suburbs

N

⊕⊕⊕ **NORA'S WILL [CINCO DÍAS SIN NORA] | 2008** | Dying well is the best revenge, at least for the title suicide of Mexican filmmaker Mariana Chenillo's wry comedy. She plans her exit to coincide with Passover, forcing her ex-husband, José (Fernando Luján), to delay the interment for five days. Not that he's religious — or even much interested in fulfilling his dead ex's wishes. But Nora has planned everything so meticulously, labeling every dish for the seder in the refrigerator and inviting all the guests, that there's no escape. She's as controlling in death as she was in life. Among those who show up are José and Nora's weak-willed son and his straitlaced wife, the judgmental rabbi who doesn't approve of burying suicides, Nora's psychiatrist (who might have been more than just a therapist), and the helpful staff of the Cemetery of Jesus. Is Nora seeking to reconcile everyone? Or, as José insists, is she out to ruin their lives? Chenillo maintains a tone of gentle absurdity until the sentimental ending. | Spanish | 92m | West Newton

O

⊕⊕⊕ **127 HOURS | 2010** | James Franco's indomitable energy propels Danny Boyle's jazzy and harrowing account of the true story of Aron Ralston, a cocky rock climber who got his arm pinned by a boulder in a desolate Utah canyon and had to resort to dire measures to survive. Franco's Ralston is a loner and proud of it; he fails to take a call from his mother, and even when a pair of female hikers (Kate Mara and Amber Tamblyn) he's charmed invite him to a party, he pushes on to the vast emptiness, and a rendezvous with what will prove to be the rock of his destiny. Through the magic of hallucinations and flashbacks, Boyle manages to keep things lively in a film most of which consists of a motionless guy in a crevice moaning and struggling and drinking his own urine for the five-plus days of the title. But the meaning of it all remains elusive. In his increasingly desperate musings, Ralston concludes that maybe he *does* need other people. But

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CAPSULE REVIEWS

Film

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this seems a lot of trouble to endure to be reminded to keep in touch with your mother. | 90m | Kendall Square

P

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **PLANET OF THE APES | 1967** | This Franklin Schaffner-directed testament against nuclear technology remains one of the best sci-fi pictures ever. Charlton, in one of his more "Hestonian" roles (check his delivery of the line "It's a madhouse . . . a madhouse!"), stars as an astronaut who crash-lands on a futurist planet where intelligent apes rule and humans are hunted for sport and used in scientific experiments. A superb mixture of comedy and commentary, this joke on the Scopes Monkey Trial challenges our key religious beliefs concerning humanity's centrality to the universe. Stunning visuals, fabulous costumes, and great supporting performances by veterans Kim Hunter and Roddy McDowall as ape scientists. | 112m | Brattle: Sun

⊕⊕ **THE PRINCESS BRIDE | 1987** | What you want from Rob Reiner's swashbuckler is the usual medieval-fairy-tale business done with some love and wit and panache. Adapted by William Goldman from his own bestseller, *The Princess Bride* is charming in parts but plods in others. Dashing hero Cary Elwes joins a trio of rogues to rescue his beloved Robin Wright from an evil prince. The two young lovers are vibrant, but Chris Sarandon and Christopher Guest, as the villains, swish it up like graduates of the Harvey Korman Academy, and Reiner lays out the cut-rate squalor, escapes, and quasi-camp treachery in the most prosaic way possible. With Mandy Patinkin, Wallace Shawn, and, in an amusing cameo, Billy Crystal as an ancient Jewish wizard. | 98m | Brattle: Thurs

R

⊕⊕ **RABBIT HOLE | 2010** | *Rabbit Hole* takes its title from a graphic novel about alternate realities written by one of the film's characters. The novel is pretty good — too bad director John Cameron Mitchell didn't adapt it instead of David Lindsay-Abaire's lugubrious play. The teenage graphic-novelist is Jason (Miles Teller), who's still feeling guilty about his involvement in a tragic loss suffered by the Corbetts, Becca (Nicole Kidman) and Howie (Aaron Eckhart). They're feeling guilty too, so they attend a kind of 12-step program for those in the same situation — which allows Mitchell and Lindsay-Abaire to make fun of mawkish grieving while at the same time indulging in it. Things take a promising turn when Becca stalks and finally makes contact with Jason, but the film doesn't have the imagination or daring to make much of the relationship. Also breaking from the mold is Dianne Wiest as Becca's dim but dogged mother. Her performance suggests that in a parallel universe this might be a much better movie. | 92m | Kendall Square: opens Sat

⊕⊕⊕⊕ **RARE EXPORTS: A CHRISTMAS TALE | 2010** | Pietari (Onni Tommila) lives in the icy mountains of Finland. He lives alone with his father, a reindeer herder; his mother is dead. Up on the mountain, some Americans are excavating, making a mess with dynamite. "Geological samples," the local men mutter. Pietari knows it's something far worse: they're exhuming the grave of Santa Claus. Soon, the reindeer are dead. The miners have vanished. And there's something unspeakable in the bear trap of Pietari's father . . . A horror movie about Santa might seem to lend itself to camp, but director Jalmari Helander never so much as winks at his audience. *Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale* is beautifully shot and scored, and the pacing is perfect. The end gets a little silly, but the building tension of the first two acts allows for some deliciously creepy moments and a true feeling of dread: the sense of something very old, and very hungry, shuffling toward you in the Yuletide dark. | Finnish + English | 84m | Kendall Square

⊕⊕ **THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW | 1975** | This horror-camp extravaganza still draws midnight crowds. Its story of two dorky, all-American kids (Barry Bostwick and Susan Sarandon) who find themselves indoctrinated into the pansexual ways of Dr. Frank-N-Furter is no more outrageous than *La Cage aux Folles*, but only a curmudgeon would deny the magnetism of Tim Curry, whose lip-smacking rendition of "Sweet Transvestite" remains one of the high points in all of cult movies. Jim Sharman directs. | 100m | Harvard Square: Sat

S

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **THE SOCIAL NETWORK | 2010** | Ever unpredictable David Fincher and screenwriter Aaron Sorkin didn't try to go high tech with this monumental "bio-pic" about Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg (Jesse Eisenberg). Instead, they took the retro route, drawing on that hallowed film genre the screwball comedy. Eisenberg's Zuckerberg is a latter-day Frank Capra hero, a Jimmy Stewart or Gary Cooper character with all of their spirit and none of their charm. Like them, he takes on the fat cats, a lone warrior against an entrenched system. His weapon, however, isn't decency but genius, and in the deadpan bravura of Eisenberg's performance, that searing intellect glows with charisma. In his climb to the top, Zuckerberg climbs over towering identical twins Tyler and Cameron Winckleveoss (Armie Hammer), who are trying to get their own version of a Harvard exclusive social network under way, Eduardo Saverin (Andrew Garfield), his best and perhaps only friend, and Napster prankster and entrepreneur Sean Parker (Justin Timberlake). He ends up with billions of dollars and millions of friends — and if you're wondering whether anyone actually loves him, you're probably also asking whether this is a screwball comedy or a screwball tragedy. | 120m | Stuart Street Playhouse + Somerville Theatre + Embassy + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕ **SOMEWHERE | 2010** | Johnny Marco (Stephen Dorff) doesn't seem to be going anywhere (as the way he races his Ferrari in circles attests) in this film from Sofia Coppola. He's a down-and-out Hollywood action star whose popularity might still be bankable but whose selfishness and hedonism have long since bottomed out. But then his 11-year-old daughter, Cleo (Elle Fanning, in a fine performance), enters his life, pressed into his charge by his estranged wife, who appears to be going through some existential crisis of her own. Savvy and facetious, but also innocent and vulnerable, Cleo makes the most of her new circumstances, appreciating the blurred moments of affection or badinage her dad is able to offer between bouts of booze-fueled indifference — though, in truth, she gets more quality time with Johnny's goofy pal Sammy (Chris Pontius of *Jackass* notoriety). And that's about it. Johnny and Cleo bounce off each other with the same kind of crusty-adult/winsome-kid dynamic that has worked on screen since, well, *The Kid* (1921), with periodic updates in such films as *Paper Moon* (1973) and *Matchstick Men* (2003). True to this formula, the interaction here, however sparse, between father and daughter brings home to both that something is missing in their lives. Coppola hasn't quite determined what that something might be, but it's somewhere in this movie. | 98m | Kendall Square

SUMMER PALACE | 2006 | Lou Ye (*Suzhou River*, *Purple Butterfly*) sets this film against the backdrop of student demonstrations, as country girl Hong Yu (Lei Hao) goes to university in Beijing and embarks on a passionate affair with fellow student Zhou Wei (Guo Xiaodong). | Mandarin + German + Korean | 140m | MFA: Sun

SUMMER WARS | 2009 | From Mamoru Hosoda, the director of *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*, comes this *anime* about a "socially awkward computer whiz" who's asked for help by the most popular girl in his high school. But maybe Natsuki should have asked for James Bond — an AI system called Love Machine is hacking into Japan's technology and threatening the world with nuclear destruction. (Didn't Blofeld already do this in *You Only Live Twice*?) Kenji has Natsuki's wealthy family on his side — but will that be enough? | video | 114m | MFA: Wed-Thurs

T

⊕⊕ **TANGLED | 2010** | Disney's 50th animated film, a very loose adaptation of "Rapunzel," is less a Grimm take than a tangled twist on the fairy tale. Byron Howard, co-director of *Bolt*, is joined by first-timer Nathan Greno, and together they've woven a 3D, computer-animated musical that strains to imbue the production with the design sensibilities of one of the studio's hand-animated 2D classics. Even composer Alan Menken fails to attain the magical heights he and his late music partner, lyricist Howard Ashman, reached in *Beauty and the Beast*. The original story's prince has become Flynn Rider (voiced by Zachary Levi, TV's *Chuck*), a dashing thief who's knocked out by tower-dwelling shut-in Rapunzel (Mandy Moore), or at least by her trusty frying pan. Oh and in this version, Rapunzel is a golden-tressed princess. Yup, this is Disney, all right. | 92m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + West Newton + suburbs

⊕⊕ **THE TOURIST | 2010** | This might be as silly as *Salt*, the previous film in which Angelina Jolie was cast as a smirking beauty with a mysterious identity, but it's not as entertaining, resembling more an inert knockoff of *Charade* than a recharging of *The Bourne Identity*. Jolie's Elise is partner-in-crime with the elusive Alexander Pierce, who has robbed a mob kingpin of a fortune. Her job is to mislead Pierce's pursuers, who include Scotland Yard (in the persons of Paul Bettany and Timothy Dalton) as well as the requisite Russian goons, by hooking up with the first stranger she meets who resembles her criminal-mastermind paramour. That would be Frank (Johnny Depp), a nerdy tourist from Wisconsin who takes the bait and gets involved in a Venice adventure that's not in his guidebook. Jolie and Depp are no Audrey Hepburn and Cary Grant, and except for the opening surveillance sequence, you'd never guess that Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck also directed the Oscar-winning *The Lives of Others*. | 103m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + Embassy + suburbs

⊕⊕ **TRON: LEGACY | 2010** | This sequel to the 1982 original gives us the continuing adventures of Kevin Flynn (Jeff Bridges), who has disappeared, leaving his son, Sam (Garrett Hedlund), an orphan with his dad's mega corporation, Encom, to deal with. When Sam receives a mysterious message from his dad and is directed to the old man's long-shut-up video arcade, he gets zapped, whereupon he finds himself on dad's cyber grid, which has been souped up with new state-of-the-art CCI but has the same lousy dialogue. Kevin, it seems, has been replaced by the program he himself designed to operate his computer world, so he mopes and shacks up with a comely "isomorphic logarithm" (don't ask) named Quorra (Olivia Wilde) and does Zen meditation in a luxury cave that's a cross between one of the sets from *2001* and a tanning bed. On the plus side, the war machines no longer look like giant floating staples. But the action scenes are the usual hyper-edited splatter. And though director Joseph Kosinski has a way with throbbing techno (by Daft Punk) and spectacular images, most of those images are stolen from other movies, from *Star Wars* to *Blade Runner* to *Triumph of the Will*. | 126m | Boston Common + Fenway + Harvard Square + Somerville Theatre + Chestnut Hill + Arlington Capitol + suburbs

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **TRUE GRIT | 2010** | This new adaptation of Charles Portis's perfect little novel by Joel and Ethan Coen is right up there with Henry Hathaway's 1969 version. It's got a bumptious, complex Jeff Bridges as "Rooster" Cogburn, the role in role John Wayne's scenery chewing won an Oscar, plus an authoritative Hailee Steinfeld as the 14-year-old who wants Marshal Cogburn to bring in the feckless trash (Josh Brolin) who gunned down her father, and Matt Damon as the vain, churlish Texas Ranger who's been tracking said feckless trash to collect a bounty on him for a previous murder. And following *No Country for Old Men* (2008) and *A Serious Man* (2009), *True Grit* also marks another stage in the Coens' maturation, as they progress from cynicism to tragedy, from the sadism of smart-asses to the gravity of the Old Testament. Their gravity is now worthy of that most venerable and profound of American genres, the Western. Better yet, they haven't lost their sense of humor in the process. | 114m | Boston Common + Fenway + Harvard Square + Fresh Pond + West Newton + suburbs

U

⊕⊕⊕ **UNSTOPPABLE | 2010** | Runaway projectiles have always made for intriguing character studies — think *Speed* or *Runaway Train*. *Unstoppable* is that kind of movie, and it's based on true events to boot: how a choo-choo — owing to a combination of incompetence and bad luck — becomes an unmanned missile (a half-mile of fuel and flammable toxins) rampaging at 70 mph through the depressed burbs of Podunk, Pennsylvania. Early rescue attempts fail, so Johnny-on-the-spot engineers Frank Barnes (Denzel Washington) and Will Colson (Chris Pines, a/k/a the new Captain Kirk) jump into the mix but must battle their yin-yang differences as well as the steel beast. The film saddles the impromptu duo with carloads of backstory, but the actors are on their game — and that includes Rosario Dawson, who adds a deft touch as the track manager fighting corporate inanity. As for director Tony Scott, who's always been all over with his camera and cut-happy edits, he here finds a rhythm that delivers suspense from nose to caboose. | 98m | Fresh Pond + suburbs

V

VENGEANCE VALLEY | 1951 | Ray Collins (who would go on to play Lieutenant Tragg on the *Perry Mason* shows) stars here as rancher Arch Strobie, who takes in an orphan, Owen Daybright (Burt Lancaster), to be his foreman and a companion to his own son (Robert Walker), but Lee Strobie resents the newcomer, especially since they're both sweet on waitress Lily Fasken (Sally Forrest). Lee already has a wife (Joanne Dru), so he has to see Lily on the sly, and when she finds she's pregnant, he convinces his father that no-good Owen is the prospective dad even though he knows it's his kid. Richard Thorpe directs. | 83m | South Boston Branch Library: Tues

NICE SHOT II Andy's isn't the only sharp eye in *A Walk Into the Sea: Danny Williams and the Warhold Factory*.

Video Clips

⊕⊕⊕⊖ **CATFISH** | **Universal** | As this ingenious documentary from Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman demonstrates, the Internet has made the relationships immeasurably more complex, ambiguous, and fraught with danger. It all starts when eight-year-old Abby, who's in Michigan, contacts Ariel's brother, Nev Schulman, a photogenic New York City photographer, via Facebook, requesting permission to paint a copy of a picture he's had published in the *New York Sun*. Abby's accomplished rendering arrives in the mail, followed by an MP3 from her beautiful older sister, Megan. Soon, Megan and Nev are conducting a long-distance love affair, but when Nev and Ariel and Ariel's filmmaking partner, Joost, decide to take it to the next level (*i.e.*, face to face), they're in for a surprise. Or are they? It's been suggested they knew the "truth" all along. But if this documentary *is* a fake, then it's an even more amazing achievement – an investigation into truth and illusion that is itself illusory and truthful. | **86m**

⊕⊕⊖ **CASE 39** | **Paramount** | What's with all the demonic little girls in movies these days? Joining *Let Me In* is Christian Alvart's thriller, which is unremarkable except for its subversive subtext. Emily (Renée Zellweger), an unmarried woman working in child services, rescues waiflike Lilith (Jodelle Ferland) from demented parents and takes her into her home until a permanent family can be found. As you might guess from her name, however, Lilith isn't as sugar and spice as she seems, and she can really get under your skin, or into your ear, as one of the more horrific scenes attests. Deviating from the usual Hollywood line, *Case 39* proposes that a woman who opts for a career over a family isn't pathetic but rather has escaped a life of enslavement to an all-devouring malignancy. Beyond this jab at family values, the film offers few surprises, being a pale imitation of *The Exorcist* and *Damien: Omen II*. | **109m**

⊕⊕⊖ **DINNER FOR SCHMUCKS** | **Paramount** | Jay Roach's fitfully hilarious but inert and repetitious adaptation of Francis Veber's 1998 French comedy *The Dinner Game* has talented executive Tim (Paul Rudd in his standard role as a doofus who's misled and inept but basically decent) trying to get ahead by joining the corporate rich guys who put on a dinner to make fun of unwitting weird people. When Tim bumps into Barry (Steve Carell reprising his character in *The Office* – vain, stupid, insuperably fatuous, and even less charming) and learns about Barry's hobby of creating storybook scenes using dead mice, he invites him to the party, but it turns out that Barry is a bigger asshole than any of them, and he batters Tim and the audience into submission with his boorish, irrepressible, occasionally funny obnoxiousness. At least there's some supporting-character diversion: Lucy Punch as dominatrix stalker Darla, Zach Galifianakis as Barry's boss at the IRS, and, best of all, Jermaine Clement as a demented and egocentric artist – imagine James Mason rigged out as a satyr, hoofs and all. | **109m**

⊕⊕ **THE LAST EXORCISM** | **Lionsgate** | We can thank *The Blair Witch Project* for a stream of fake documentaries aspiring to be edgy horror films. Daniel Stamm helms this ambitious but messy tale of charlatan preacher and professional exorcist Cotton Marcus (*Big Love*'s Patrick Fabian). Following the accidental death of a child during a botched exorcism, Marcus wants to expose the fraudulence of his industry – so, camera crew in tow, he visits a Louisiana farmer whose teenage daughter is possessed by a demon. For the first hour, the subversive premise and the authentic performances are taut and engaging. You might even like the absurd ending that steals from (pays homage to?) obscure horror texts that include *Harvest Home*, *Cannibal Holocaust* and *The Wicker Man*. But the purity of the docu conceit falls apart thanks to the intrusion of a spooky score and deliberately eerie camera shots. You may not be scared, but you should Be Afraid. | **97m**

⊕⊖ **MACHETE** | **Fox** | Which came first, the chicken or the egg? In the case of *Machete*, the Mexploitation picture directed by Robert Rodriguez and Ethan Maniquis, it was the trailer, two-plus minutes of B-movie bliss that appeared in the failed 2007 double feature from Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino, *Grindhouse*. The (then fake) coming attraction introduced *Machete* (ex-con bit player Danny Trejo), a craggy, tattoo'd former *federale* who'd been "set up, double-crossed and left for dead!" Proving that less equals more, the feature-length expansion retains Jeff Fahey as plot instigator and Cheech Marin as a gun-toting padre while adding Jessica Alba as a customs agent, Michelle Rodriguez (no relation) as a freedom fighter, Steven Seagal as the drug lord who murdered Machete's wife, and Robert De Niro (!) as a corrupt senator. Alas, not even Lindsay Lohan – doing a cartoonish riff on her tabloid persona (is this even possible?) – can bring this rotten egg to a boil. | **105m**

VIEWS ON VERMEER | 2009 | Hans Pool and Koos de Wilt traveled to New York, Holland, France, London, and Washington to make this documentary "introducing us to artists, writers, and photographers whose lives and work are directly inspired by Vermeer, and others for whom the connection to the old master is less direct, yet no less vital." | video | 52m | MFA: Wed-Thurs

W

A WALK INTO THE SEA: DANNY WILLIAMS AND THE WARHOL FACTORY | 2009 | Andy Warhol's collaborator and lover, Danny Williams vanished from the face of the earth in 1966 at the age of 27, but not before making a handful of astonishing films whose subjects included Andy Warhol, Edie Sedgwick, Paul Morrissey, Brigid Berlin, Billy Name, and the Velvet Underground. Esther Robinson made this documentary about her uncle by interviewing surviving Factory members. | video | 78m | MFA: Wed-Thurs

Y

⊕⊖ **YOGI BEAR 3D | 2010 |** In this needlessly 3D live-action/CGI adaptation of the Hanna-Barbera staple, the Borscht Belt-style biped (Dan Aykroyd) not only miscalculates his "smarter than the average bear" status but also his appeal beyond 20 minutes. As it is, director Eric Brevig has Yogi dropping a one-liner about his rectum to Ranger Smith (Tom Cavanagh) before the patchy plot even kicks in. Or tries to. In a retread of recent family films featuring forests, Yogi and Boo Boo (Justin Timberlake, continuing to surprise) bumble and scheme to help their human friend woo a girl (Anna Faris), thwart a broadly greedy, environment-savaging politician (Andrew Daly, with shades of Sarah Palin), and embrace the value of "being different." None of it is funny or entertaining, save for a turtle long on tongue but short on screen time. Boring, pointless, and instantly forgettable, this return to Jellystone Park is no picnic. | 83m | Boston Common + Fenway + Fresh Pond + suburbs

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Docket No. SU10C0379CA

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
PO Box 9667
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

In the matter of: Martha Braniff Duffy
OF: Allston, MA

To all persons interested in petition described: A petition has been presented by Martha Braniff Duffy requesting that: Martha Braniff Duffy be allowed to change her name as follows: Martha Braniff Duffy-Botto

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: **Boston**
ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: **01/06/2011**

WITNESS, Hon. John M Smoot, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 3, 2010
Richard Iannella, Register of Probate.

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Docket No. SU10C0381CA

Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
PO Box 9667
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300

In the matter of: Ruben Daniel Krantz
OF: Brighton, MA

To all persons interested in petition described: A petition has been presented by Ruben D Krantz requesting that: Ruben Daniel Kantz be allowed to change his name as follows: Ruben Daniel Dancour.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: **Boston**
ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: **01/06/2011**

WITNESS, Hon. John M Smoot, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 6, 2010
Richard Iannella, Register of Probate.

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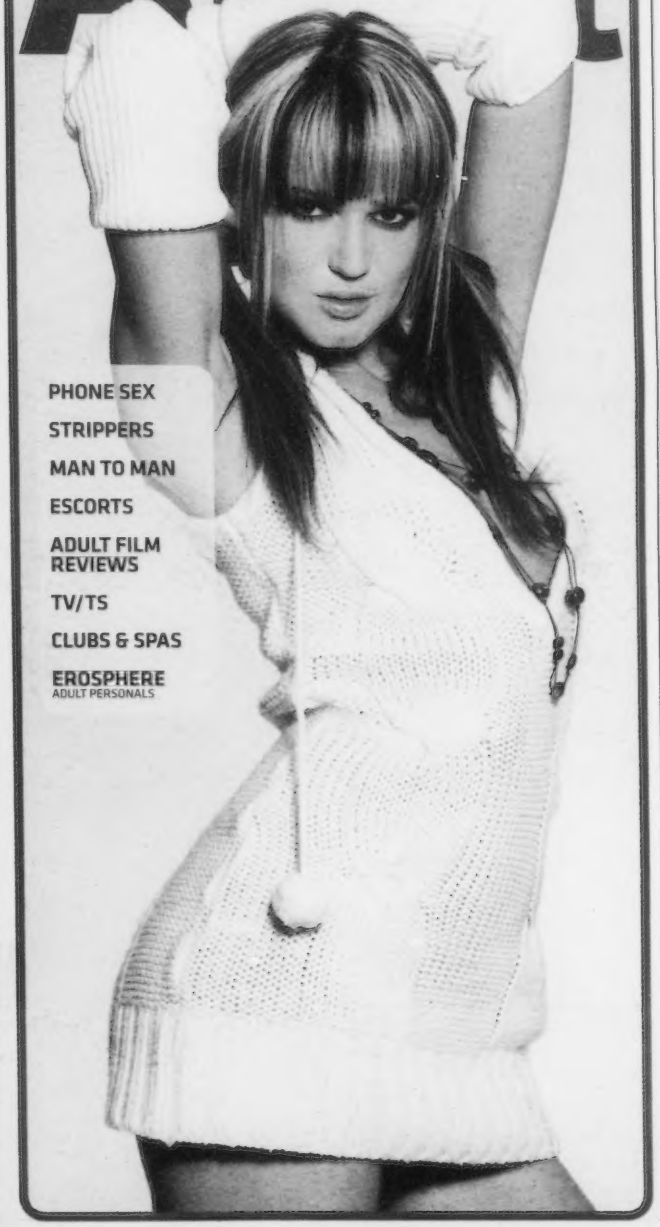

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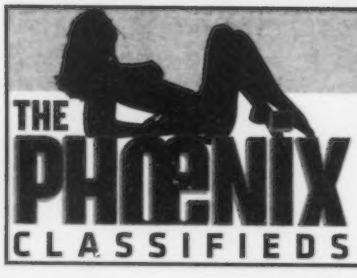

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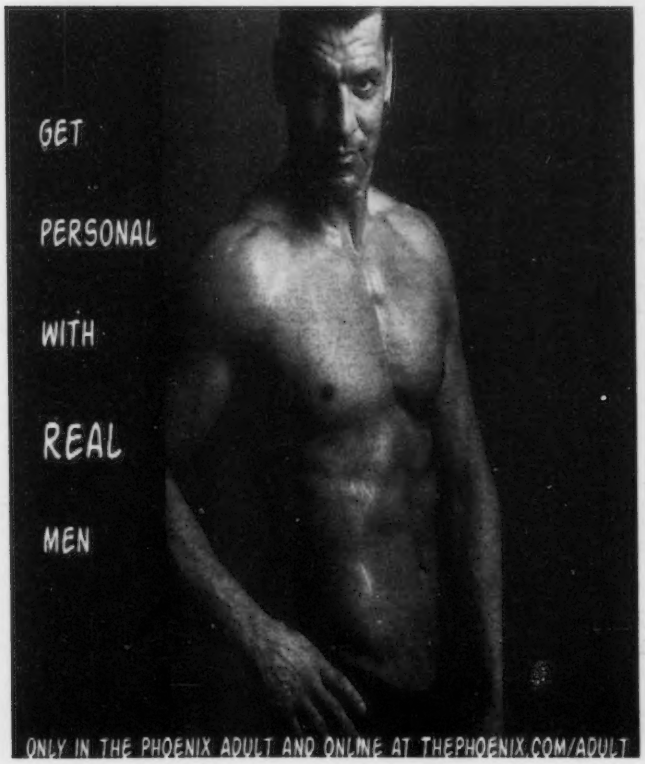

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★PORN REVIEWS

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BARELY LEGAL BIKINI BLONDS #2

Starring: Nicole Ray, Ally Annm Kirra Lynn, Taylor Tilden, Kensey Knox, Ryan Driller, Kris Slater and Chris Charming
Director: Alex De Large
Studio: Hustler Video

Time for a break from all that kissing, and on to everyone's favorite, blondes in bikinis. Are they real blondes? It's hard to say, as there is no carpet left to match the drapes to. But I'm sure their natural hair color is the least of your concern - you are probably more interested in their cock-sucking abilities. Well, let me assure you that they don't disappoint - these girls are seriously hungry for it. But the studs are ready to give it to them poolside, all over their surgically-unenhanced hooters. Typical of the barely legal series, these girls are all quite young, but it's clear that this isn't their first time on camera, as they are not shy and demand what they want - to be nailed hard by a well hung stud while still wearing some shred of a bikini. Scenes are on the short side, in case you're in a hurry.

GIRLS KISSING GIRLS, VOL. 6

Starring: Allie Haze, Dia Zerva, Elexis Monroe, Zoey Holloway, Amber Chase, Avy Scott, Mia Presley, and Sara Stone
Director: Nica Noelle
Studio: Sweetheart Video

Looks like a good week for kissing! This gem by Sweetheart Video, the current frontrunners in real lesbian porn, features a lot of it - a solid 5-10 minutes at the beginning and the end of each scene. It is clear that these beauties are really enjoying themselves - the orgasms are real (you can tell because their cheeks are flushed), and the boobs are too. Stone's are particularly nice. You can tell they are doing all this dry-humping and licking to please eachother, as they don't have to rely on toys or other props in order to reach multiple orgasms. The storylines for each act are minimal, but not really necessary if you enjoy watching 2 gals get REALLY into each other. As an added bonus, the women are gorgeous, and some resemble celebrities - Presley is a dead ringer for Liv Tyler, and Scott is somewhere between Bridget Fonda and LeeLee

IT STARTS WITH A KISS

Starring: Alexis Texas, Breanne Benson, Carolyn Reese, Nika Noir, Samantha Ryan, Cheyne Collins, Denis Marti, Evan Stone, Ryan Driller, and Tommy Gunn
Director: Skye Blue
Studio: Wicked Pictures

As everyone knows, and the jacket of this DVD tells us, every good seduction begins with a kiss. If this film is to be believed, they all end with a massive load to the face or chestal region. Wicked's good-looking (and mostly natural) ladies get drilled in style by some of the hottest fellas in the industry today, in some rather scenic locations. In one shot straight off the cover of a Harlequin Romance, Gunn rises from a candlelit pool in nothing by white slacks - it seems a shame he's not riding a stallion, but thankfully he is hung like one. In another, Stone woos his lady with the old cute dog in the park trick, and finishes by burying his bone deep inside her. If you are looking for romantic porn in which the characters actually seem to care about each other, you would probably enjoy this one.

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ISO DOMINANT PRE-OP
...or sexy CD. I enjoy long sessions and have large, smooth equipment. Box 74101 (xp1/5)
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Looking for oral with another married North Shore guy. Leave a name and number, let's talk! Box 92651 (xp1/7)
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Top, 55, looking to be serviced to completion. I'm 5'10'', 170lbs, completely shaved, 7'' cut, love gay, straight and bi movies. Box 91001 (xp1/10)
BOTTOM GUY
Seeking blue-collar, uniform top guy who needs to get off in my mouth. Make me get down on my knees, shove it in my mouth, and shoot that load for me. Box 98711 (xp1/15)
MARRIED SOUTH SHORE GUY
Works in the city, looking for other married men. I'm 6', 210lbs, solid construction worker, closeted and discreet. Box 45161 (xp1/16)
KINKY PUERTO RICAN TOP
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Looking for a male, 18-22, slim build, who loves a great blow job and the feel of a nice, hot tongue caressing his balls. I love s*cking a nice, stiff c*ck until you shoot a mammoth load. I'm 36, 6', 160lbs, totally discreet. If the best head ever interests you, leave a message! Box 96091 (xp2/9)
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Dominant, straight-acting Bi guy looking for dominant, tough white guy, 25-35, who will totally dominate me. Box 45151 (xp2/11)
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Hot, horny Latino, 22, 5'11'', 170lbs, six pack, in great shape, tattooed, wants to be your slave. You can dress me up and make me do whatever you want. Seeking a dominant daddy. Box 46711 (xp2/12)
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Looking for guys who want to have a threesome. I can be a top or bottom, 5'8'', 170lbs, brown/green, 7'' cut, bubble butt. Box 87761 (xp2/13)
I LOVE TO F*CK
Male, 6', 185lbs, clean-shaven, I love using toys, fisting and f*cking. Let me know if you're up for some fun! Box 43041 (xp2/19)
HORNY GWM
GM, 40, looking for a GM, 40+. As long as you have a big c*ck and a lot of c*m, I'll be willing to s*ck on it. Tell me how big your d*ck is! Box 51711 (xp2/26)
SEEKING HOT YOUNG DUDE
BiWM, 35, 6'1'', 210lbs, good-looking, masculine, looking to service a hot young WM, 18-36. Slim, athletic college student a plus. I'm a decent guy who will treat you right! Central MA. Box 42041 (xp3/1)

LOOKING FOR A GOOD TIME
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LOVES FOREPLAY
Male, late 50s, North of Boston, seeks petite man, c*ck size, age and height not important, short a plus, for a lot of foreplay; hugging, nipple play, kissing, and hot oral. Box 17461 (xp3/14)
SEEKING TS
I'm looking for a TS with a nice set of t*ts and a great c*ck. I'm 35, 5'8'', 140lbs, long dirty blond/hazel, and looking for some fun. Box 98641 (xp3/15)
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BiWM, 56, looking for daytime or early evening encounters. Seeking older guys who can host. Box 50311(xp3/16)
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Middle-aged WM, nice body, would like to get together with an older, married couple. Box 37032 (xp2/7)
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WM, 6', 190lbs, D/D-free, versatile, likes oral, anal, trying new things. Seeking D/D-free male, age and race open, with a nice sized c*ck. Box 791152 (xp2/28)
CLEAN AND DISCREET
Looking for a guy, 30-45. I'm 5'11'', brown/brown, clean-shaven, small build, and looking for a clean, discreet partner for some fun. Box 11842 (xp3/14)
DISCREET
Bi guy, 45, Boston area, looking for well-hung guys to service. Box 84412 (xp3/14)
NORMAL, MARRIED, CURIOUS
Bi-curious WM, 43, wants to talk to and maybe hook up with other married, discreet Bi guys, 35-55, who like to dress up and role-play. Prefer others with no experience, like me. Box 99042 (xp3/14)
SUBMISSIVE WM, 55
Clean, professional, very discreet, north of Boston, seeks dominant CD who is interested in training this inexperienced slut. Must be able to host. Box 99272 (xp3/17)

I'M HARD UP FOR D*CK
BiM, 40s, healthy, 165lbs, 5'6'', nice looking for a guy who wants a good BJ with no reciprocation. Box 99772 (xp2/29)
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Male, 50, in good shape, disease-free and clean, seeks Bi couple with female to share good times. Box 96142 (xp3/12)
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Looking for a dominant top who wants to fill my mouth with his c*m and f*ck my ass. Call, I need your c*m! Box 44731 (xp2/27)
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Submissive CD, 6', 220lbs, decent build, buzzed strawberry blond hair, 8'' cut, shaved, looking for friends. I'll come over, dress up completely, service you and be your sissy. Love role play, being spanked. Box 17611 (xp3/7)
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MARRIED BIWM
6'1'', 190lbs, 7'' cut, looking to travel and hook up with a slim, smooth, bi black or Puerto Rican guy. Box 57471 (xp12/21)
I NEED SOME C*CK
Are there any guys out there who would shoot their loads into my mouth? I could really use some sperm right about now. Nothing like a good load of semen on my tongue. Also looking to get f*cked. Box 51711 (xp2/14)
MIDDLE-AGED WM
Looking to hook up with a young, smooth black or Latino guys for some hot times. Call me, you won't be sorry! Box 97011 (xp12/23)
ANYTHING & EVERYTHING
Rhode Island guy, 5'10'', 215lbs, brown/hazel, versatile but more of a top, into everything and anything, kissing, s*cking, you name it! Box 92191 (xp3/10)
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Let me know if you're looking for your own, personal domestic slave to do all your cooking, cleaning, foot massages, back rubs, taking your shoes off after work. I'm very obedient and hard-working, not to mention discreet. Experienced master preferred but not necessary. Box 98151 (xp12/31)

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Bottom pig, loves to obey and s*ck c*ck. I'm fit and like to work out. I will obey and take it up the ass. Box 93341 (xp2/17)
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SWM, 35, 6'1'', 215lbs, good-looking, masculine, seeks attractive, athletic WM, 18-27. Slim, muscular or college sports type a plus. Conn shoreline-Amherst area. I'll treat you right and give you the relief you need! Box 42041 (xp2/23)
LOOKING FOR FUN?
Hairless male looking for guys over 50, preferably in Braintree or Cambridge, who want to get off and get their d*ck s*cked while watching porn. Box 95521 (xp12/31)
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30s, 6', muscular body, good-looking, curious about being with another guy. Prefer to start with a guy with a smaller d*ck. Box 44591 (xp1/8)
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Male, 5'10'', 190lbs, 8'' c*ck, loves giving a good blow job, back massage. You won't be disappointed! Box 96731 (xp3/2)
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7.5'' c*ck and I'll s*ck yours, too. I'm in my 50s, Woonsocket area. Box 10091 (xp3/8)
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Straight-acting bear type looking for another husky, stocky, beefy, hairy bear with a nice, meaty d*ck. Let's do it! Box 91581 (xp3/1)
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Older, cool, good-looking guy looking for well-hung, young guys who want to receive a long, juicy oral session with no reciprocation. No hassles. Box 42061 (xp3/4)
I LOVE SEMEN
BiWM, 54, 5'8'', 170lbs, straight-acting, loves semen. Looking to orally satisfy a clean, fit, discreet, assertive male, 35-60, to completion on an ongoing basis. No reciprocation. Can't host, willing to travel. Box 63881 (xp2/26)
LOVE OLDER MEN
Boston area, 31, blond/blue, likes getting blow jobs and massages, making out. Seeking similar older man. Box 44991 (xp12/30)

IF YOU ARE...
a lean, smooth-bodied guy, 18-22, and want to lay back and enjoy an incredible c*ck-s*cking, call me. The taste of your prec*m on my tongue would make me so hot! Box 96091 (xp1/25)
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WM, 49, very clean and discreet, 5'8'', 170lbs, smooth body from the neck down, likes wearing pantyhose, heels and miniskirts. Looking for somebody who is in good shape and likes to do the same. Box 29801 (xp1/3)
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Seeking older, dominant guy who loves to give spankings. Box 95611 (xp2/25)
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Plymouth area, looking to hook up with other guys. I'm 5'11'', 6.5'' cut, D/D-free, semi-hairy, HIV Neg, 230lbs, versatile top, have a goatee. He's 5'9'', 160lbs, slender, a little hairy, total bottom, HIV Neg. We can host. Box 97191 (xp3/6)
ISO BOYFRIEND
GWM, 45, 6', blond/blue, looking for a boyfriend, 19-25. If you're interested, call me! Box 45061 (xp3/3)
MY PLACE
GWM seeks masculine, well-hung, cut WM. I have a cozy apartment where I can give you a deep, sooth massage followed by satisfying oral pleasure. Box 95501 (xp1/20)
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Would like to experience oral with more than one man at a time. Are you and your friend into it? Box 11721 (xp1/22)
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Looking for a lean, in-shape guy, 18-22, with a nice, big c*ck, 7-9''. I love s*cking and going way down. By the time you c*m you will blow your mind as well as your load. Box 96091 (xp2/2)
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You must have a long, fat c*ck, at least 6'' and thick. I'm a good-looking guy, 5'6'', Italian. Box 11811 (xp2/10)
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35, 5'11'', 200lbs, thick 7'' c*ck, looking for guys, 18-40, who can host in the Providence area. Love giving and receiving oral, mutual JO, watching porn. Box 97351 (xp2/16)
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WM, 38, 168lbs, athletic, straight, looking for some role play with an older male, 50-60, who has his own place and can host. I'll play the submissive part if you will dominate me! Box 42261 (xp2/16)
MARRIED BIWM
6'1'', 190lbs, 7'' cut, looking to hook up with a slim, smooth, well-hung black or Puerto Rican guy. Like watching porn, JO, talking, mutual oral. Leave a number and description. You must host. Box 57471 (xp2/24)
BI BM
Looking for a black guy for discreet meetings and relationship. Blond bottom, 53, wants to meet on a regular basis. Box 45031 (xp3/2)
LET ME S*CK YOUR D*CK
Handsome, heavyset male, 48, in Providence, loves to s*ck c*ck, swallow, and get it in the face – whatever you want! Sound interesting? Box 11381 (xp3/8)
BI GUY, 55
Looking for older guys who can host. Daytime or early evening encounters. Get back to me, make contact! Box 50311 (xp3/10)
OPEN-MINDED
BiWM, married, 6', in decent shape, clean-shaven, honest, 6.5'' uncut, likes oral. Seeking a man who can host. Box 10202 (xp1/30)

I'LL BE YOUR SISSY
CD, 45, 6', 220lbs, Irish and German, 8'' cut and shaved, very kinky, loves dressing up in stockings, heels, wigs, make up. Very submissive, love being spanked, searching for a daddy type. Box 17012 (xp3/7)
SOUTH SHORE AREA
Cape Cod man, straight but curious about being with another guy, 42, 150lbs, 6.5'' cut, looking for somebody who is clean and discreet. Would prefer someone similar in age or younger. Box 96222 (xp12/29)
P*SSY BOYS WANTED
Dominant, well-hung Italian seeks feminine, submissive p*ssy boys who like to dress up in sexy lingerie. Race open. Interested in meeting 2-4 times per month. Box 95222 (xp2/27)
MALE SLAVE
I like getting spanked. Call me if you can fulfill my needs! Box 89592 (xp3/1)
LOVE TO WEAR A SKIRT
WM, 49, very clean and discreet, 5'8'', 170lbs, in good shape, smooth body, likes to wear pantyhose, heels and mini skirts. Looking for someone who likes to do the same. Box 29802 (xp2/3)
ARE YOU SEXY?
Do you look and dress like a woman, look pretty, and love to s*ck c*ck? I do! Love to wear nylons while I play around and s*ck c*ck. Leave a message if you want to have some fun! Box 42702 (xp2/8)
VERY OPEN-MINDED
Male, '3'', black/brown, medium build, 235lbs, moderately hairy, 7.5'' cut with big mushroom head, into oral, body contact, making out. Versatile and looking to travel. Seeking CD/TV/TS. Box 62612 (xp3/5)
WEAR A SKIRT FOR ME
DWM, 53, looking for a tranny out there to meet and have some fun with! Box 42932 (xp3/9)
HOW FAR DO YOU WANT TO GO?
Caucasian male, 48, 5'6'' 150lbs, top, hazel eyes, mustache, looking for someone to get together with and do whatever we'd like. Box 41462 (xp2/24)
TWO HOT GUYS
One is 28, 6'2'', one is 6', 170lbs, want to party with big c*cks. Looking to get double f*cked? Let's get raw! Box 41102 (xp2/13)
DADDY LOVES TO SERVICE
Seeking young guys who are hung big. Ring me up, you won't be disappointed! Box 71192 (3/1)
VIRGIN
Seeking my first oral sex lesson. Open to a couple, TS, she-male, or if anybody wants to watch! Box 92652 (xp2/26)
BOTTOM PIG
Love s*cking d*ck, swallowing, and taking it up the ass. Looking for a good time? Light brown hair, blue eyes. Box 93342 (xp1/27)
NEW BEDFORD
BiWM, married, 69, 5'10'', 180lbs, good-looking, brown/brown, 6'' uncut, big nuts, juicy nipples, loves ass play, s*cking c*ck, getting down and dirty. Cannot host, but can travel within 20 miles of New Bedford. Box 91932 (xp1/21)
SUBMISSIVE PANTY BOY
Male, 5'3'', 142lbs, smooth body, bubble butt, looking for dominant daddy type, 50+, with thick, solid body, to give me a good, old-fashioned, bare-bottom spanking. Box 95612 (xp2/25)
ASIAN BOTTOM BOYS
...and t-girls wanted by dominant Italian, well-hung. You must host. Box 10012 (xp2/27)

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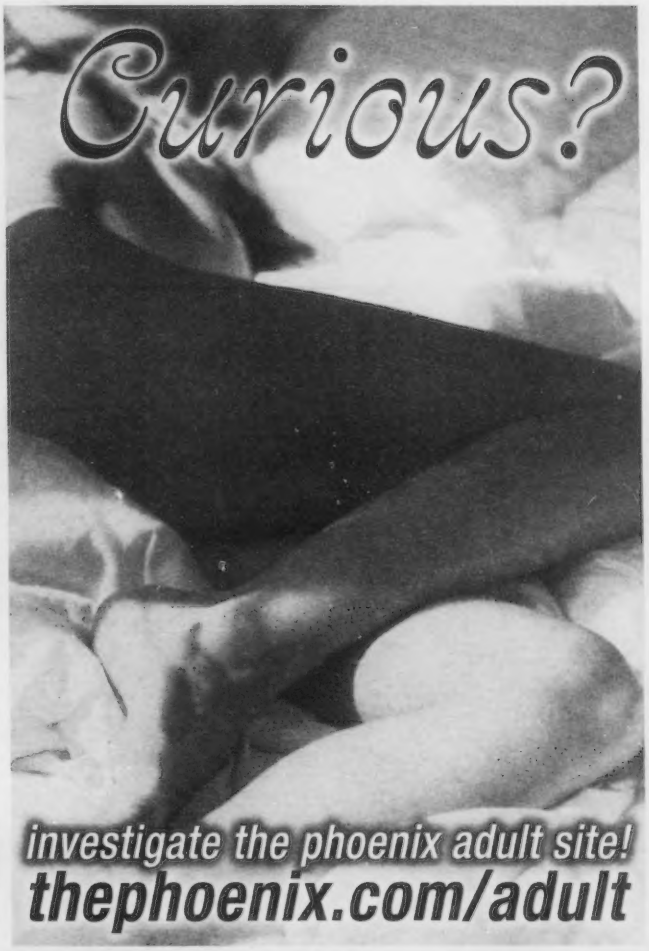

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY MAN?
Mid 40s, light brown hair, brown eyes, 5'7", 145lbs, looking for responsible man, 55-65, who loves music and loves to entertain, seeking happy-go-lucky guy. I like to dine in and love to cook as I am a Rachel Ray fan. ☎329672

RUNS WITH SCISSORS
DWF, 60s, iconoclast interested in theatre, movies, outdoors, art, spirituality. Seeking emotionally aware, politically liberal, humorous man with similar interests. Mensch a plus. ☎926274

WARMER WEATHER & YOU
Attractive female, 39, seeking mature male (age and race open), with an open mind, diverse interests, cultural events, and who enjoys the city and the countryside. Sense-of-humor and playfulness a plus. Let's enjoy the warmer weather and each other. ☎330416

SEEKING A KIND MAN
Loving, happy DF, 60, looks younger, 5'6", slim, kind-hearted, enjoys music, dancing, dining, movies, beach walks and more. Seeking honest, kind gentleman for friendship and possibly more. Arlington, MA. ☎231714

R U LOOKING FOR ME
SWF, 52, petite, attractive, Framingham area, enjoys long walks, the beach, dining out and music. Looking for SWM, 52-60, kind, compassionate, good SOH. Ashland area. ☎[illegible]

ATTRACTIVE BLONDE
SWF, 68, 5'2", slender, no children, outgoing, caring, warm, romantic, enjoys dancing, walking, traveling and movies. Seeking a SWM, 68-77, trustworthy, attractive, honest, for a long-lasting relationship. Medford, MA area. ☎201913

SEEKS HONEST MAN
SBF, easygoing, very kind, nonsmoker, seeks an honest BM, 28-50, non-smoker, No drugs, who's sincere, mature, responsible, with no baggage, for friendship, possible relationship. ☎335263

SWEET ACTIVE WIDOW
SWF, very kind, adventurous, active, non-smoker, likes dancing, traveling, skiing, hiking, nature, seeks active WM, 68-72, nonsmoker, with same interests, for companionship. ☎335554

POSITIVE EXPECTATIONS
Down-to-earth SWF, 50, 5'5", non-smoker, artist, enjoys movies, music, dining out, and beach walking. Seeking laid-back, easygoing SWM, 35-65, non-smoker, for casual dating, possible long-term relationship. Honesty a must! ☎257882

WAITING FOR YOUR CALL
SF, 19, strawberry golden blonde, seeks Asian, Indian or European guy, 19-40, for friendship, dating, maybe more. ☎334981

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT
Full-figured SWF, 52, Bethel area, loves nature, music, hiking, the outdoors, art, writing poetry. Looking for SM, 48-64, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. ☎335138

CUTE
I am a female, 5'4", long brunette hair, likes dining out, movies, cable tv. Looking for a male with similar interests, 58-63. Fall River Mass. ☎328994

SUMMER'S OVER...
SWF, attractive, fit, 50s, red/hazel, looking forward to football games, fall hikes, the ballet season and red wine by the fireplace. Seeking emotionally/financially available S/DWM, with sense of humor, for companionship or possible relationship. ☎322744

ARLINGTON WOMAN
Divorced European female, 48, 5'4", slender, attractive, clean, neat, honest, caring, down-to-earth, likes socializing, seeks tall male with similar qualities for long-term relationship. Metrowest area. ☎333006

HOW ABOUT ME?!
SBF, 41, 5'8", medium build, nonsmoker, very attractive, black hair, slanty eyes, light-skinned black, looking for a SWM only, 41-65, who's honest, caring, for friendship first leading to possible relationship. ☎331736

ARE YOU READY?
SBF, 52, 150lbs, black hair, career-oriented, professional singer and law school student looking for a SBM, 52-57, who's also career-minded, and a singer too, to settle down and have a family. ☎[illegible]

SEEKING COMPANION
SWF, 60, non-smoker, loves to enjoy the simple things in life like taking walks, dining out, going to the movies and living life to the fullest. Looking for a SWM, 55-60, non-smoker, with similar interests. ☎331161

YOU AND ME HAVING FUN
SBF, 42, self-employed, smoker, likes walks, dancing, rollerskating, going out, seeks SM, 44-50, to share fun, friendship leading to possible long-term relationship. ☎333806

LIFE IS GOOD!
SBF, 40, 5'5", caramel complexion, average build, smoker, loves mexican food, movies, bowling, the beach, traveling, seeks SM, 40-45, for friendship, possible long-term relationship. N.Providence area. ☎333847

YOU MIGHT BE THE ONE
DBF, 57, 5'6", looking for a male, 55-65, race open, who has a sense of humor, loves laughing, the beach, cuddling, holding hands, all the good things in life. I'm in the Boston area. ☎333010

LOVELY, SHAPELY...
DWF, blonde, 5'7", intelligent, responsible, easygoing, without children, interested in holistic medicine, Jewish mysticism, metaphysics, Italian culture and fine dining, literature, animals, lively conversation. Seeking kind, honest, educated professional SWM, 49+, for serious relationship. ☎253651

BEAUTIFUL BLONDE
Sincere, intelligent, sensitive, and very caring. Interests include people, music, philosophy, cooking; looking for a gentleman, 55-70, with qualities. You won't be disappointed. Thank you. ☎476812

RETIRING
SWF, 54, 5'7", average weight, blonde, looking for someone to retire with and enjoy the next phase of our lives. I want to travel and explore the world, and also love to take long walks. ☎[illegible]

TAKE A CHANCE
SBF, 52, 5'9", enjoys cooking, reading, day trips, watching old movies, listening to music. Seeking SBM, 50-55, prefer non-smoker, D/D-free, with same interests. ☎[illegible]

MUSICOLOGIST SEEKS LTR
SWF, 41, 5'7", 160lbs, N/S, enjoys book clubs, live theater, movies, concerts, museums, dining out, long conversations. Seeking SWM, 41-55, N/S, intellectual, kind, honest, for LTR. ☎324788

BLUE-EYED BRUNETTE
SWF, 64, H/W proportionate, seeks secure Italian or Greek man, 55-62, who is attractive, likes to travel, has a good sense of humor. ☎327977

BRING THE LOVE
SBF, 19, looking for love in all the wrong places! Looking for a SBM, 18-26, who can show love. ☎328528

SENSUOUS AND SEXY
A fun, quality, attractive and intelligent SWPF, 53, enjoys the stepping out on the scene and romantic times. I get involved with theater, travel, dining and all outdoor activities. N/S, no children at home, seeks the same. Fairhaven, MA. ☎115522

SPRING ROMANCE
SWF, 48, looking for someone who is honest, handsome, and a good person, 38-48, long hair, white or Hispanic, for friendship, maybe more. I enjoy music, clubbing, bowling, movies. ☎329185

SINGLE MOM
HF, dark/hazel, full-figured, has children at home, likes walks, going to movies and having fun. Looking for SBM, 27-45, for dating, maybe more. ☎330189

SEEKING ATTRACTIVE WM
DWF, 5'2", blondish-brown/hazel, affectionate, caring, seeking a SWM, 59-69. I enjoy dancing, music, candlelight dinners, travel, getaway weekends. Very romantic and compassionate. Seeking friendship first, maybe more later. ☎[illegible]

ATTRACTIVE BLONDE
SWF, 57, N/S, seeks fun-loving male, 54-66, who likes to go for walks, enjoy the company of family and friends, movies, outdoor activities, gardening, just having fun! ☎331180

EDUCATED VIOLINIST
For the last 35 years I've been a teacher, mother, security guard, biochemist and nurse. I'm looking for a man who is educated and has his feet on the ground. Looking for someone between the ages 45-60. ☎409705

WIDOW
WiWF, weight proportioned to height, college-educated, good SOH, seeking a SWCM, 55-70, weight proportioned to height. Must be a Christian, preferably a Episcopalian as religion is important, college-educated, with minimum of an Associate's degree. Likes to go the beach, likes the outdoors, spend time with friends. Prefer summer weather. ☎332839

EASY TO GET ALONG WITH
SWF, 57, 5'5", long auburn hair, blue eyes, Irish descent, easy to get along with, enjoys the outdoor life, camping, animals, the beach, mountains. Seeking SM, 49-63, with some similar interests. ☎334862

SEEKING SWEET GUY
Irish SWF, petite, brunette/green, seeks SWM, 30-50, British or Irish man rom R.I, who loves cooking and animals/pets. I love my pet bunny rabbit Erin. I want kids. ☎117110

ROMANCE AWAITS
DWF, 60s, 5'8", auburn hair with blonde highlights, brown eyes, alluring, passionate, cultured, diverse interests. Seeking self-realized, passionate DWM, 55+, 5'10"+, for long-term relationship. Let's make wonderful lasting memories with you in the near future! I reside in the Rhode Island area. ☎498194

SPECIAL LADY
SWF, smoker, likes art, music, staying home, and everything in between, seeks SM, 21-60, for friendship first leading to possible long-term relationship. ☎334978

DO YOU EXIST?
If you are honest, kind, caring and compassionate as I am, then leave me a message. WF, 5'3", 200lbs, reddish-brown/brown, who wants a genuine gentleman. ☎320558

ACTIVE AND SMART
WF, 63, looks younger, nurse, seeks SM, 60-70, non-smoker, who is healthy, energetic, active, honest, self-aware and can be both social and alone. Let's talk, laugh, cook, travel, garden and just enjoy each other's company. ☎330179

SEEK A TRUE GENTLEMAN
Outgoing, active woman enjoys walking, sports, politics and more. Looking for a very easygoing WM, 75-80, to share dinners, conversation and possibly more. ☎328678

GREEN EYED LADY...
looking for long term relationship with quality men. You must be single, 39-53, 5'9"+; 185+, professional/ have a good job, financially stable, be responsible, healthy, not have any major addictions, non-smoker. Must love the outdoors, beach, kissing, holding hands, movies, and travel. Me: I am a lover of life. ☎330055

THINKING OF YOU
SWF, 58, 5'3", 106lbs, sitting on my red sofa reading a book. I'm looking for a SWM, 58-62, nonsmoker, social-drinker, who enjoys cooking, dining out, plays, travel, watching movies at home, and romantic evenings for possible long-term relationship. I'm from the Groveland area. ☎335035

GREEN EYED LADY...
looking for love. Hi, I'm a 44 y/o female with a pretty face; dazzling smile and bright green eyes. I'm a sexy professional who owns a home and is stable. I'm looking for a professional man who is fun, loving, and sexy and wants an long-term relationship. I await you! ☎330210

AWAITING YOUR CALL
SWF, 37, teacher, enjoys sports, baseball, hockey, basketball, football, shopping, movies, travel. Looking for attractive SWM, 35-43, who is honest, trustworthy, has a good sense of humor, likes sports, romance, and can make me laugh ☎324965

CUTE EXOTIC GIRL
I'm a cute, fun, smart single gal who is looking for a man with the same qualities. Let's meet and see if we hit it off! ☎327303

SEEKING A GREAT GUY
SHF, 24, just finished college, working full-time. Looking to meet someone, 24-35, for casual friendship that, if all goes well, can turn into long-term relationship. Please be clean-cut, independent, and good-looking! Talk to you soon! ☎329894

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

NORTH SHORE
Italian SWM, 56, 5'4", 130lbs, business and home owner, salt-n-pepper hair, height/weight proportionate, in good shape, enjoys working out, beaches, dancing, more. WLTM, SF, with similar interests. ☎122340

ONE GOOD MAN LEFT
SWM, 57, 6', 215lbs, blonde/blue, seeks affectionate, honest, caring S/DWF, 25-60, no children at home, who enjoys classic rock, jazz, movies, restaurants, quiet times. Friendship, long-term relationship, possible marriage. ☎334872

IVORY SEEKS EBONY
SWM, 43, 6', 190lbs, good-looking Italian, in shape, seeks B/HF, 30-50, thick is ok, for friendship, fun and more. ☎335685

TIME TO HAVE FUN!
SWM, 60, 5'10", 215lbs, nonsmoker, likes playing golf, dancing, walks on the beach, flea markets, weekend getaways, dining out. Seeking SWF, 50-60, easygoing, good communicator, romantic, for friendship first maybe more. ☎729585

EBONY, WHERE ARE YOU?
SM, 5'10", 180lbs, looking for a pretty, no-attitude BF for friendship and casual relationship first. ☎333327

SOUTH SHORE ONLY
WM, 68, smoker, would like to meet a lady, 60-68, for companionship. If interested, give me a call soon. ☎330476

SOUL MATE
DWM, 55, 5'7", 125lbs, honest, kind, caring, compassionate, light smoker, seeking a woman, 35-55, with similar qualities for friendship and possibly more. ☎335789

A VERY NICE GENTLEMAN
DWM, 54, 5'7", 125lbs, Irish born, likes going for walks in the park, watching movies, holding hands, candlelight dinners. Seeking SWF, 40-60, who's similar, caring, easygoing, romantic, affectionate, for possible long-term relationship. ☎326094

FRIENDSHIP AND DATING
SWM, 54, 155lbs, brown/blue, honest and sincere, likes to travel, dine out, take walks on the beach. Looking for long-term relationship with SF, 20-55. ☎334238

SEEKING MY MATCH
DM, 53, non-smoker, light drinker, outgoing, funny, upbeat and confident, affectionate, likes to make people laugh. Seeking honest, caring, outgoing, affectionate, down-to-earth SF, 40-56, for movies, comedy clubs, dancing, dining, taking walks. ☎325557

ARE U OUT THERE?
SWM, 43, brown/hazel, 220lbs, loves the ocean, movies, quiet times, togetherness, fun nights on the town. Seeking passionate, fun-loving SF, full-figured a plus, to share the good things in life. ☎943582

WALTHAM AREA
Attractive SWM, mid 50s, financially/emotionally secure, loves all music, especially jazz and blues. I'm enjoying my brand new home. Seeking good-hearted woman, 30-50, very light smoker, race unimportant, older kids ok, for friendship first, companionship, leading to possible LTR. ☎949078

CONVERSATIONALIST?
SM enjoys sports, walks, being outdoors, movies, dining out, relaxing at home and more. Looking for a female, 30-48, who cares about her appearance and has similar interests. ☎325933

FIND LOVE IN 2010
SBM, 36, non-smoker, no children, sexy eyes, romantic, loves to sing and write. Seeking similar female, 20-50, who is sweet, funny, and wants to be treated right. ☎[illegible]

NOT AFRAID...
to get your hands dirty? Attractive single guy, 33, 5'8", slender, bright, humorous, athletic and fit seeking pretty SWF, 20s-30s, who is comfortable with her look, not afraid to get her hands dirty, and wants to meet someone to get to know and go out with. ☎327305

FRIENDSHIP AND KIDS
Metro West WM, 40, 5'7", 155lbs, clean cut, athletic, non-smoker, N/kids. Seeking open-minded WF, 30-45, for friendship and kids. Looks unimportant, being family-oriented is. Be in average shape or better and be looking to start an immediate family. Non-smoker, N/Kids please. ☎318149

FUN AND NORMAL
Fit SBPM, 48 easygoing and open-minded. I enjoy movies, sports and good conversation. Seeks a woman who is a college graduate, 30-50, of any race with similar interests. ☎329254

INSTRUCTOR TRAINER
Into a romance as we horse people say. DWM, 56, 6', good build, gentle, kind, understanding. Easy to talk to. Would like to meet long haired, independent, attractive female. Please call. ☎128886

WANT TO FIND YOU!
Young-looking SWM, 70+, 5'10", 175lbs, non-smoker, down-to-earth, easygoing, seeks a special WF, 48+, very slender, kind, honest, upbeat, to share life's experiences together leading to possible loving serious relationship. ☎332606

JAZZ LOVER
SWM, 55, 6', wine merchant who enjoys live jazz/blues, fine wine and dining out, seeks SWF, 35-45, with similar interests. ☎963454

KIND AND GENUINE
Communicative, extroverted, affectionate, also urban, artsy and very funny SWM, 59, considered very good-looking, looks 47. Seeking SWF, 40-55, to be my future best friend. She is kindest to herself and kind to others. ☎112555

NEED A SWEETIE!
Hard-working, independent DWM, clean-cut, nice-looking, considerate, passionate, 50, 5'9", 165lbs, dark/brown, non-smoker, non-drinker, enjoys dancing, exercise, long walks on the beach. Seeking sweet, sincere SWF, 40-62, for possible long-term relationship. ☎133708

SEEKS ASIAN WOMAN
SWM, 50, brown/blue, good-looking, in shape, good SOH, honest, down-to-earth, seeks long-term relationship with Asian woman, honest, loyal, with a good sense of humor. ☎143472

EVERETT AREA
SWM, 57, 5'8", 150lbs, nonsmoker, likes bowling, dancing, talk walks, good conversations, watching movies. Seeking a nice sweet lady, 30-60, race not important, slim, kids ok, for friendship first maybe long-term relationship. ☎313694

ARE YOU THAT SOMEONE?
Degreed SWM, 41, 5'3", two teenagers, loves spending time with friends, beaches, photography. Looking for SF, 28-45, who is fun and funny, likes being outside, goofing around. ☎330575

LET'S MEET
SM, 39, two children not at home, would like to meet a secure, goal-oriented SF, 25-50, for dating. If interested, please give me a call. ☎329426

MEN SEEKING MEN

LOOKING FOR MATE
GWM, late 40s, in shape and works out, easygoing, indoor/outdoor person, enjoys movies, sports, and looking for someone to share it with. Central MA. ☎315208

SEEKING BOYFRIEND
GWM, 30s, very attractive, very humorous, fun, affectionate, seeking foreign boyfriend, in his 20s, for beach, movies, dining out and possible relationship. ☎331650

BOYFRIEND WANTED
Athletic WM, 62, 5'6", 137lbs, enjoys the arts, film, fashion, working out. Seeking PM, 58-68. Serious replies only. ☎331353

TALL DARK AND HANDSOME
GWM, 48, 5'9", 271lbs, non-smoker, likes watching sci-fi movies, comedies, exercise, walks, go traveling, good conversations. Seeking a GWM, 40-50, who's intelligent, kind, trustworthy, for friendship first maybe more. Warren. ☎326895

SEEKING A BOYFRIEND
GWM, 47, 6', 280lbs, easygoing, wants to meet a younger male, 35-40, to share good times with in the greater Methuen area. ☎[illegible]

OLD GUY SEEKS SAME
Retired SWM, 78, slim, exercises regularly, non-smoker, enjoys music, long walks, dramatic movies, seeks WM, 74-82, non-smoker, for friendship. ☎335224

WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

FRIENDSHIP AND FUN
GWF, 45, rubenesque, blonde, 5'2", non-smoker, non-drinker, No drugs, seeking GF, for open-minded discussions, activities. I enjoy movies, arcades and comedy clubs. Melrose area. ☎328622

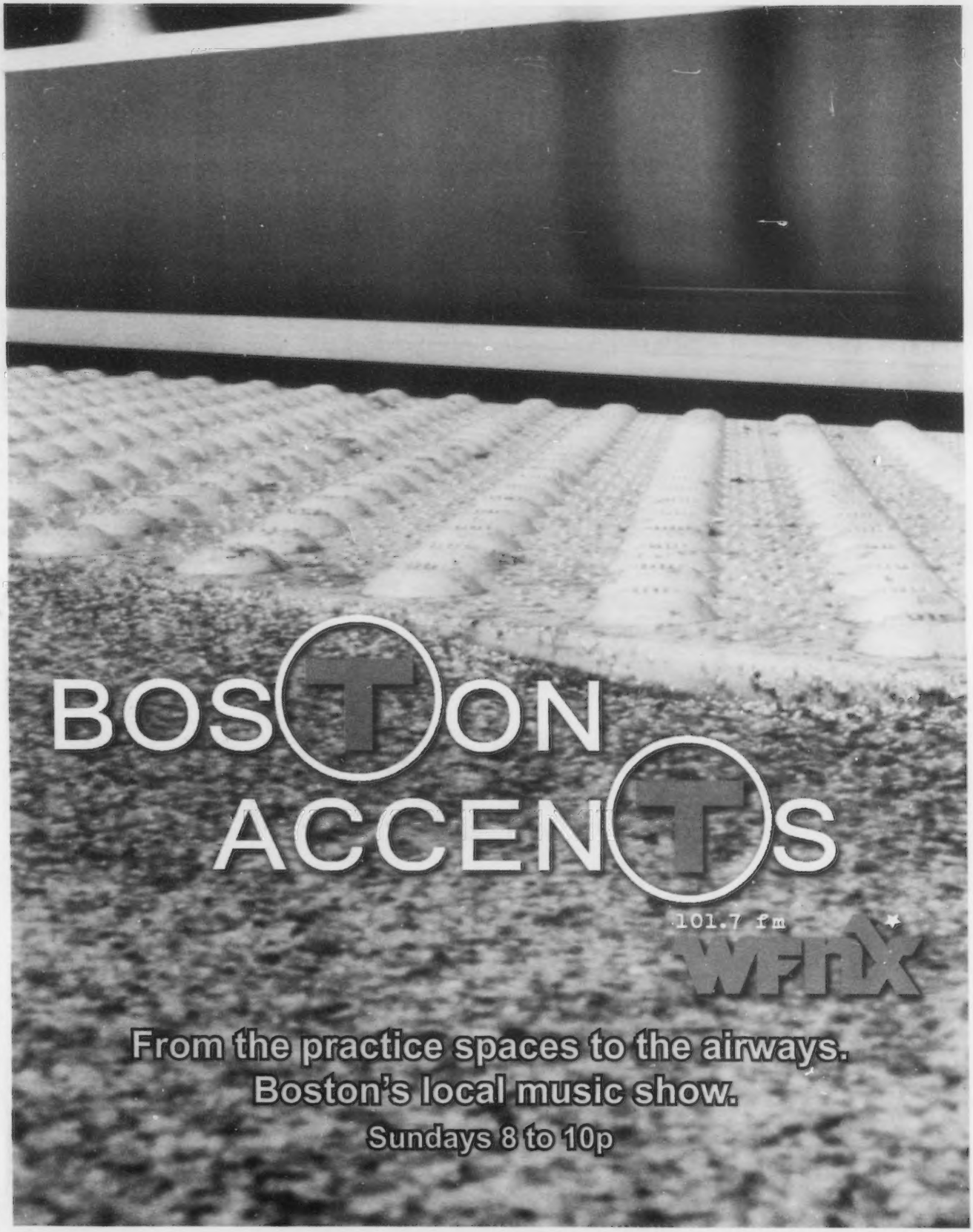
BEST FRIEND
GF, 50+, seeks same with sincere, caring heart. Sense of humor a must. Looking for that special lady in my life as a friend. Stoneham/North Shore area preferred. ☎464291

MY OTHER HALF
BF., 43, wants to grow in life and accomplish shared goals with a SF, 45-50. I like playing pool, poker, having fun and enjoying life. ☎328433

AUBURN AREA
Soft, sweet, smooth, shy, passionate, caring woman, 45, enjoys the outdoors, the ocean, being outside, plays, movies at home, holistics. Seeking similar female, 30-55. ☎335439

LOOKING FOR LOVE
GWF, 63, 5'7", non-smoker, looking for non-smoker gay females for companionship possible long-term relationship. Someone easygoing and good SOH. I enjoy movies, reading, beaches, laughing, etc and romance. Call me. ☎329704

LET'S MEET
SBF, 45, non-smoker, 5'8", attractive, dread locks, good sense-of-humor, Carribean descent, and speak 4 languages. Looking for one special femme, 38-55, who believes in romance, trust, culture, politics, and passion. I love cooking, the outdoors, theater, travel, walks on the beach, and dining out on Friday nights. ☎313791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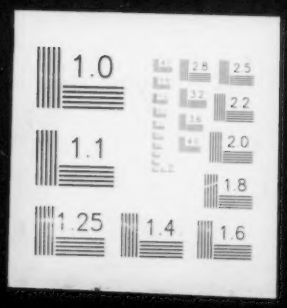
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